NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER-----FOR THE FARM, FIELD AND FIRESIDE.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

In reply to inquiries, we would say that the FARMER will be sent to all subscribers until a discontinuance is ordered. The date to which payment is made is given on each paper, so that every subscriber can ascertain for himself the time when his subscription ends.

We would also state that our *lowest and only terms* are given on our third page. We have no Club Terms. We have fixed our rates as low as the times will allow, and we give our readers their full money's worth.

☞See Third Page for Terms, &c.☜

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Subscribers noticing any error in their dates will please notify us at once, as mistakes are much more easily corrected when pointed out soon after their occurrence.

Editorial.

EXPERIMENTS WITH FERTILIZERS.

We publish, this week, two communications from subscribers who have made partial or entire failures in the use of commercial fertilizers, during the past year. We rarely feel quite certain what use to make of such letters, or how to reply to them. When we commenced our labors on the agricultural department of the FARMER, we had strong prejudices against the use of commercial fertilizers, for the reason that such as we had at that time used had given very poor satisfaction. When the Brighton fertilizer was put on the market it seemed as if in that there was a waste product which ought to be sold for no more than it was worth, and we gave it an early trial. Since then, great changes have been brought about in the manufacture and sale of commercial fertilizers, and we have believed, and do still, that farmers and the public have been benefited by their more general use. Still we have been very cautious about advising farmers to purchase concentrated fertilizers, especially to any large extent, knowing, as we do, the many difficulties in the way of their successful use. First, the manufacturers have constantly had something yet to learn. They have not known just the very best method, under all circumstances, of manufacturing special fertilizers. The business, *as a business*, is new, and it is only through the combined experience of both manufacturer and farmer that the best methods of making and applying can be learned. We know that honest manufacturers have made mistakes, and we also know that well meaning farmers have erred greatly in the application of fertilizers to their crops. In our own farm practice, we have done the best we knew how, and we have made many doubtful experiments, hoping thereby to learn that which would be of use both to ourselves and the public. In making such experiments, we have had both successes and failures, and when any lessons have thereby been learned, we have been free to give others the benefit of them.

To those who have either charged us as being interested in any way in the sale of any fertilizer, or who have hinted that our own investments have come gratuitously from dealers, we feel that we have a right to say a word which is this: that we have no interest, personally, in the sale or use of any commercial fertilizer whatever, nor ever had. Numerous fertilizers are advertised in the columns of the FARMER by the manufacturers or dealers, and just to the amount received from that source are the subscribers benefited as the publishers are thereby enabled to give them a better and cheaper paper for their money. It is absolutely impossible for the publishers to know exactly, either the real or comparative value of all the articles they allow to be advertised through their columns, nor should they be held wholly responsible for the value of everything they advertise. Some means must be had through which the manufacturers and consumers of useful articles can reach each other. The newspaper publishers stand between the two, saying, "Gentlemen, so long as we have reason to believe your intentions are honorable, we will allow you to use our journal as a medium of communication, each party paying his proportional share of the necessary expenses incurred."

Knowing that publishers could not in all cases be in condition to express opinions concerning the goods they advertise, and knowing the advantage of a good reputation in this direction, a few fertilizer dealers who have had confidence in the value of the goods they are making, have occasionally presented the agricultural editor with small packages of their goods for trial. As some of our readers may imagine that these presentation packages have been large and frequent, we will state, as nearly as we can remember, how many we have received and from whom. Two barrels animal dust from the pork packing establishment of Charles H. North & Co., Boston; one bag acidulated Brighton fertilizer, from Jackson & Bowker, Boston; one bag Stockbridge wheat fertilizer from W. H. Bowker & Co., Boston; four pounds guano and one pound special fertilizer, for house plants, from W. H. Bowker & Co.; one twenty pound bag each of bone black, potash, and nitrate soda, for experiments in top dressing, and one bag of Caribbean Sea guano, for grass, from W. H. Bowker & Co.; six sample bags, twenty pounds each, of experimental fertilizers from Connecticut Experimental Station, Middletown, Conn., through Prof. W. O. Atwater, director; also, a few ounce packages of ground bone from sundry parties, received through the mail, as samples. The value of all these complimentary packages has probably not exceeded twenty-five dollars, while, during the same time, we have bought for use not far from one thousand dollars' worth at the same prices that any other farmer would pay if bought by the car load, or in wholesale quantities.

We commenced in the purchase of these fertilizers in a small way, just as we advise others to begin if they purchase at all. We have had good success and poor success. We have been experimenting in the hope that the experiments would prove valuable, both to ourselves and to others. When we have failed, we have sought to understand the cause, and guard against failure in the future. When success has been attained, more fertilizers have been purchased.

On the whole, the investments have been highly satisfactory, but if we had condemned the fertilizers at each failure, and refused to try again, we should have missed many valuable crops. We have had a few as bad failures as we have seen reported by others. A small field of millet did as poorly the past season as did our friend's beets, and we have no *certain* knowledge of the cause of the failure; yet, as another field, near by, paid all the expenses of both, and a surplus of profit besides, we could not feel like laying all the blame upon the fertilizer, especially as both lots were manured from the same bag.

From our own experience, if asked to answer in a general way, whether the use of commercial fertilizers pays, we should reply that they pay on some land a very much better percentage than on other land; that they pay better applied to some crops than to other crops, and that they also pay much better in some seasons than others.

If land is so coarse and loose that it cannot hold water enough to mature a crop, or is too wet for plants to grow in, it would be wasteful to cover it with fertilizer, whether that fertilizer be a concentrated chemical substance or a load of stable manure. Again, if a fertilizer is used for growing a crop that is not wanted in market, like our apple crop of the present year, there can certainly be no profit from growing it under such circumstances; and again, if the season is so unfavorable that all, or nearly all, crops fail, we cannot expect a field to produce well merely because it contains a sufficient amount of fertilizer to produce a crop, provided other conditions were all favorable.

We have said that we are sometimes uncertain what use to make of letters giving the results of experiments with fertilizers. Some that we receive bear evidence of being written in the interest ... the fertilizer dealer, and would be out of place, except in the advertising department, while others are evidently written by persons whose failures in their use have made them somewhat bitter, and who come to the newspaper, asking us to blow up or condemn the whole trade, when really their failure is but one among many successful experiments made by themselves or others. So we have concluded that our own judgment must guide us in the use of reports of fertilizers, as in every other matter connected with our newspaper duties and obligations. The letters published this week are from correspondents who are evidently seeking to get at the root of the matter, and are not prejudiced in any direction. If all the letters received on this subject were as free from prejudice, we should have less doubt as to what use to make of them.

VERMONT DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

It was with feelings of painful regret that the Agricultural Editor of this journal was compelled to forego the pleasure of attendance at the recent annual winter meeting of the Vermont Dairymen's Association at Montpelier. With an acquaintance of some half dozen years with this, in our opinion, the most valuable and successful dairy organization in the United States, and with the remembrance of so many warm friends, whom we should be sure of meeting at the convention, the disappointment felt is not easily expressed.

On receiving the invitation from the Secretary to be present and take part, as heretofore, in the work of the convention, we felt obliged to decline, solely on account of an unusual press of home duties, but mentally reserving a final decision, hoping that, at the last moment, relief might in some way come, that would make it prudent to attend, and it was not until informed by the publishers that they had engaged a competent reporter for the occasion, that we felt, in a measure, reconciled to our fate.

That any of our readers who may think that we can leave at any time without much inconvenience, may better understand the situation, perhaps it may not be out of place to state that a press of home duties, in our case, means a dairy herd of fifteen cows, all in milk, yielding between eighty and ninety pounds of butter per week; that all this butter is churned, worked, salted, and put up in quarter-pound cakes by the proprietor alone; that churning day comes every Monday and Thursday, the year round, and that for the past four years the semi-weekly shipments, regardless of heat, cold, storm or snowbanks have been delivered promptly and without fail to the regular customers. Indeed, this prompt and regular delivery is a part of the "stock in trade" that gives the dairy its value and reputation. Until the present winter we have been assisted, in case of an emergency, by a younger branch of the family, who has been competent to fill the gap caused by our absence, but who is now studying the science, as well as the practice of agriculture, at one of our agricultural colleges. This leaves a load to be carried, which, under the circumstances, is not easily thrown off or shifted upon other shoulders.

The editorial work of the agricultural department of the FARMER is nearly all done at the farm of the editor, some thirty miles from the publication office, and, although its readers may not be in the main losers by having an editor who is, in every respect, *one of them*, yet this working at arm's-length must cause occasional delay, and an inconvenience that none can realize more fully than those who have the work to do.

As stated above, a competent reporter was engaged to prepare a report of the meeting, and we expected, with other of the readers of the FARMER, to enjoy a perusal of his sketch in our last issue, but learned, when too late, that the report would not be forthcoming, though for no fault of ours or the publishers, affording a fresh demonstration of the old saying that, if you would be sure of having a job done, you must do it yourself.

The meeting, as we learn, was pronounced, in point of attendance and interest, one of the most successful in the history of the association. Our friends and fellow laborers, Dr. Hoskins and O. M. Tinkham, were both present, and made very extended reports for the journals which they respectively represent, and from these we shall make extracts as our space allows. We have only room this week for the opening address of President Mason, which contains so many points of vital interest to all classes, that we give it entire:—

We have met, ladies and gentlemen, to interchange views, to relate and discuss our experience, to criticise and compare results, and to draw such conclusions as may furnish a standard for future action. You have, no doubt, gentlemen of the association, often remarked the invidious criticism which has followed the sessions and labors of such a body as this. All the sciences, and arts, and various industries are represented by guilds and associated efforts, but we make the exception to this rule, in the judgment and feelings of very many—even of farmers. Not long since a convention of doctors, and then again of lawyers, was held in this place. Nobody objected to this. In the opinion of all, it was meet and proper that the two interests alluded to should have all the aid which co-associated mind and effort could do for them; but when it comes to the turn of the farmer, we constantly hear the covert sarcasm, if not open rebuke, when he goes into convention with his brothers, and makes the attempt to focalize the scattered lights which might so bless and advance his interests, if they were properly used. Is this sound philosophy? Have not these men, even who so object to book farming and agricultural conventions, who are so reluctant to accept any information which members associated together have to offer,—have not these men also received what they know about the practical part of their business from their fathers and from their neighbors? Truly it has been said by Mr. Webster, that the larger part of all that mankind acquires is by means of conversation. But we do not evade the challenge. We are willing to have it asked,—What have we done, and what are we able to effect in aid of the great agricultural interest of our beloved State?

For ten years I have been a not inattentive looker-on at the deliberations of this body. For that time, I have been its presiding officer, and to-day I bear willing and joyful testimony to the marked and beneficial impression which your labors have made on the public will. We have much yet to accomplish—many to reclaim from the error of their ways. It was said in yonder capital, last fall, if something was not done for Vermont farmers, there would be great suffering and failure. Many discussions which we heard would lead one to suppose that the very bread and meat of the farmers of Vermont depended upon some action to be taken by the Vermont Legislature. Can it be that farmers can be alluded to as the only class of men in Vermont who are seeking aid to keep them from starving? It was not so in days gone by. Upon whom did farmers depend, and who were not dependent upon them? But now it is frequently declared that their support depends upon the Legislature of the State! This is and has been a continual source of regret and mortification. And why should this be so? Have we not the same blessed soil as of old—the same glorious heritage? Is not the sunshine as genial, the soil as fertile, the water as pure, and the air as healthful and life-giving? Why all this dejection and discontent we see and hear? Why are the sons of farmers fleeing from their paternal acres to villages and towns, deserting the calling of their fathers, and seeking a resource in the professions and in clerkships? How painful is it for us who cling to our homes in the country, and who look to agriculture as the prop and stay of our land, to hear so many of our brethren say they are waiting the time in our fortunes when better times will enable them to dispose of their lands at a living rate, and desert their present business. What a humiliation to see so many who have devoted their previous years to the noble calling of tilling the soil, ready at the first opportunity to change their pursuits, and devote their future to even a petty huckstering of merchandise? If this tendency is not corrected, who can predict the sum of evils which must result to our country.

Not only must our peculiar interest dwindle and die, but all subordinated and supported interests must suffer and decline with us. Far be it from me to hold you to a sentiment where your livelihood and the support of the family are the questions. If, when fairly tried, farming cannot be made to yield needful provision for our daily and inexorable wants, I have no quarrel with the farmer who deserts it. But are we sure of our objections? Indeed, let me ask, rather, are we not, in making it, surely mistaken and badly deceived?

Is not the last analysis of all reasoning on the profits, or certainty of our business, simply this: that the farmer must make a living, not for himself only, but for the rest of the world? Is it not the truth, that while a merciful and bountiful Providence sends the early and the latter rain upon the land, the well regulated farm must be a sustaining empire in itself—nay more, must share its abundance with the non-producer? And besides, where in all this wide-spread land is not there trouble, repining, complaint? We hear such accounts of some newly discovered "Eldorado" as raise emotions of hope and swelling elation in the desponding heart of our people. The eye is said to see everything but itself, and so it may be said of us in our surroundings. "Man never is, but always to be blest." Depend upon it, my friends, our patrimony, this soil, we Vermonters stand planted on, is one of God's most blessed estates, and is all we can require to make us rich, happy and strong, if we will not abuse our chance.

But these are generalities, and you ask for plain and specific suggestions of reform amelioration. It seems to me a very obvious fact, that no hope of speedy improvement can be entertained, without a removal of the underlying troubles which beset, we might say, our whole domestic system. Emphatically, I declare it to be my opinion that our farming is of too low a grade. Under the most favorable circumstances, no man can afford to work a sterile acre. With our labor as dear as it has been, it is absolutely certain that our production must be enhanced, and materially so, if we would hope to succeed and prosper. I need not tell as intelligent and practical a body of men as the one I now address, that it is no harder to cultivate an acre of very rich land than it is to tend a very poor one; but at the same, or less expense, with double or treble the yield for the rich acre, what a vast difference does it make in the fortune of the farmer! I need not ask you, many of whom are teachers in our noble art, how little of tillage, and especially of fertilization, does it require to increase a crop one-fourth.

Let us stop one moment to think what it would add to the general welfare, if all our farm productions, could be enhanced just one-fourth.

If all the butter of the country was of good quality, it would be a saving of a hundred million dollars per annum. What comforts, enjoyments, joys, might be purchased with this amount; and, on the other hand, what misery is imposed on the suffering consumers condemned to wrestle three times a day with an enemy whose strength overcomes them. We do not exaggerate. Experts, whose lives are made miserable by reason of the bad butter they are compelled in the course of trade to taste or smell, assure us that a large share of the butter brought to market is classed as grease, and sells for a low price. If it were just fairly good it would bring twice what the wretched stuff brings as material for slushing down the masts of ships or filling some other plebeian purpose in the world's economy. First-class butter is wanted in large quantities, and is quickly taken up at figures which head the list in market reports, or is retailed privately at prices far in advance of those. Reports come from the butter dealers inquiring, What can we do with the white, streaky, badly-smelling butter, to render it fit for sale? What can they do with it? Not all the spices of Araby could sweeten it. Disguise cannot cover up its iniquity. It comes in such a questionable shape, after all the vain attempts to reconstruct it, that it is suspected at once; and butter, like Cæsar's wife, should be above suspicion.

The fact must be confessed that a large share of our butter is below first-class, and is disagreeable or unfit for use. Can farmers stand this intolerable tax? With abundance of material wealth, as a class they are poor. Poor but "honest" we are happy to believe and avow. But not honest to themselves, for they inflict on themselves a yearly loss they would submit to from no other source. A hundred million dollars slip through the farmers' fingers in consequence of bad butter. Sour, bitter cream from dirty vessels yields butter depraved from the churn. We should learn there is such a virtue as cleanliness. Poverty is not disgraceful, but nastiness is. Think of these things brethren, and have them reformed. An increase of one-fourth in quantity and price would make a difference of nearly three millions of dollars in our dairy product of Vermont yearly, allowing 200,000 cows to be employed in the product of the dairy. Two hundred thousand cows at 120 pounds per cow average now 24,000,000 lbs. at 20 cents, $4,800,000; 200,000 cows at 150 pounds, ¼ increase, 30,000,000 pounds; at 25 cents, $7,500,000; an increase of $2,700,000 in the product of the dairy; and so in proportion to all other farm products. How many farmers in straitened circumstances in Vermont would this increase of production bless! There is no fancy in all this. The fact is in our grasp, and this very incoming crop can easily be made to demonstrate it. How, you ask? By securing a moderate supply, if not a liberal one, of manures. Here, let me say to you, gentlemen, is the foundation fact in our efforts at improved husbandry in Vermont.

The inexorable and conclusive fact in all successful agriculture, is a rich soil. How to keep our lands up to a remunerative point of fertility, is the great problem that is ever recurring, and is ever perplexing to the farmer. There is no such thing in our practical experience, when dealing with the soil, as stability and uniformity. We must either be ascending or descending in the scale of success. We must be ever moving.

During the years preceding 1873, when immense government outlays and vast paper issues caused legitimate trade to succumb to speculation; when financial contest attracted giddy financiers; when fortunes were made in a day, then farming was regarded as too slow, too unremunerative for smart men; then came the exodus from country to city; then flocked the great army of non-producers to the cities to live by their wits. Soon comes the crash! Behold, the scene suddenly changes! The smart men have run the great Ship of State ashore, amid the shoals of extravagance, inflated credits, and false values; the great leviathan of trade lies prostrate, bound with shackles of debt and taxation and shrinkage. The merchants, the bankers, the manufacturers wring their hands in despair, and cry aloud for help; government is powerless, for no statute or resolve can produce an ounce of value, no shifting of debt from one to another liquidates a cent of it, no legislative enactment can supply the starving laborer with bread until the wheat is first forthcoming. When utter bankruptcy and stagnation, when pressing debt and grinding taxes stare the proud citizens of our land in the face, whence shall come relief and succor?

Friends and farmers, from you has this help proceeded, from you who stood by the magnificent prairie farms of the West, and the rich valley farms of the Pacific slope, and ploughed and planted and harvested grand fields of corn and wheat and grain; from you, farmers of the South, who have cultivated beautiful plantations of cotton and rice and sugar; from you stock raisers of the vast plains, who have watched and tended your flocks and herds; from farmers of the Atlantic slope, who from lands less favored by nature, have yet produced a world's supply of butter and cheese and hay and fruits. Whence comes this vast export of cotton, wheat, corn, flour, provisions, butter, cheese and apples? The answer is at hand,—the farms of America have produced a surplus which the world wants in exchange for gold.

Many plans, new and old, have been brought out to lift us above our troubles, to give life to business and work to labor. While a fierce war has raged about these schemes, those who till the soil have been at work. They have fed our people and have sent a great surplus abroad. Our exports for two years ending in July last, were more than $1,200,000,000. Nearly all of this came from the earth, raised by those who till the soil or work its mines. Their toil has brought our government and our banks up to the point of paying debts and redeeming currency in the money of the world.

If our government is wise and economical, if our bankers are honest and conservative, the labor of the country will hold them up to the point reached. The statesmanship and financiering which has achieved this grand result, is the statesmanship and financiering of the farm and workshop.

Dairymen and farmers—extravagance, fast living, speculation have held their sway; our country awaits a change; she needs your economy, your common sense, your simple habits engrafted in her legislation; she needs less expensive experiments, less impracticable men; she needs an agricultural department that shall rise higher than the distributing a million packages of unfruitful seeds or the publishing a hundred thousand volumes of pamphlets bound in cloth; she needs to know why beetles, grasshoppers and bugs are permitted to destroy millions of dollars worth of national wealth; why, for lack of veterinary science, thousands of cattle, horses, sheep and swine are lost to the country. She needs to have the practice of agriculture ennobled, cherished, improved, fostered and encouraged by the active interest of her leading citizens. Farmers, are you not ready and willing to engraft your local thrift, economy, and slow but steady success on the legislation of the nation? Are you not prepared to let speculators, politicians, theorists and spendthrifts stand aside, and put better men in their places? We have struggled long with evil times. In vain have we tried all the shemes and devices engendered by discontent and distress; and now that we have to return to the soil, we begin to feel new life coursing along the veins of commerce, and the strength in the muscles of labor which mother earth ever gives to her children when they seek from her abundance and prosperity. The farmer occupies the most useful, the most important station in society. It is to his exertions that the support, the food, the employment of every other rank is owing. To the surplus produce of the farmer we owe the institution and preservation of distinct employment, the origin of commerce and manufacturers, and the existence of government. It is the surplus produce of the farmer that sets the wheel of manufacture in motion; that bids the sails of commerce whiten every sea; that gives to religion her ministers, to education her students; that supports the busy population of the crowded city, and that lends to government its resources, its energy and its very being. Let the farmer but raise only enough for his own support, and the mighty heart, which, by its beatings, communicates life to every extremity, would be chilled, and every member of the great body politic be palsied in a moment.

MASS. BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

At the second day's session of the Board, Wednesday, 5th inst., Committees were appointed as follows: To nominate an Executive Committee of the Agricultural College, Messrs. Hadwen, Slade and Davenport; Committee on Assignment of Delegates to the County Societies, Messrs. Wakefield, Brown and Bowditch; Committee to Select Subjects for Essays, Messrs. Clark, Grinnell and Moore; Committee on Time and Place of Holding Country Meeting, Messrs. Grinnell, Lewis and Knox. Prof. Goessmann of the Agricultural College presented a report on Salt Marshes and his sixth annual report as inspector of Fertilizers. It was voted that societies receiving bounty from the State should require that stock at their exhibitions should remain on the grounds until the close of the fair and that it must be kept there until three o'clock of the first day.

Messrs. Nichols, Moore, Slade and Bowditch were constituted the Examining Committee for the Agricultural College, and Messrs. Phinney, Amiens and Baker were appointed a committee to report on changes in the time for holding fairs. The Worcester Society was authorized to hold its fair the first week in September, if it could be held in connection with that of the New England Agricultural Society. Messrs. Ware, Hersey and the Secretary were appointed a Committee to report upon the awards of premiums in the different societies. On motion of Capt. J. B. Moore it was voted not to print the reports of the delegates to the fairs in the annual report.

Thursday was the final day of the session. It was decided to hold the next country meeting of the Board in the Town Hall at Greenfield, on the first Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in December, and it was also voted to hold, as heretofore, an exhibition of farm implements and machinery as well as of fruits and grains heretofore. The Committee of Arrangements was appointed, consisting of Messrs. J. S. Grinnell, of Greenfield, Mr. Demond, of Northampton, E. T. Lewis, of Athol, and Secretary Flint. An Executive Committee, appointed with special reference to matters to come before the Legislature, was appointed, consisting of Col. M. P. Wilder, O. B. Hadwen, B. P. Ware, E. Hersey, J. B. Moore and Secretary Flint.

It was voted, on motion of Capt. J. B. Moore, of Concord, that each agricultural society receiving a bounty from the State must hold not less than three teachers' institutes during the year.

The charges of the alumni relative to the management of the Agricultural College, which were recently published, were taken up by the Board, which is also a Board of Overseers of the College, and referred to the Examining Committee for the College, which consists of Messrs. Nichols, Brown, Moore, Slade and Bowditch, and they decided to give a public hearing on Tuesday Feb. 11, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The following delegates were appointed to attend the County fairs for the present year: Essex, H. M. Pierson; Middlesex, O. B. Hadwen; Middlesex North, T. J. Damon; Middlesex South, J. S. Grinnell; Worcester, Marshall P. Wilder; Worcester West, J. R. Nichols; Worcester North, E. T. Lewis; Worcester Northwest, J. F. Brown; Worcester South, O. J. Davenport; Worcester Southeast, F. C. Knox; Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, M. Smith; Hampshire, N. Upham; Highland, V. Taft; Hampden, A. K. Abbott; Hampden East, W. Warner; Union, M. C. Wheeler; Franklin, E. F. Bowditch; Deerfield Valley, R. P. Ware; Berkshire, Demond; Housac Valley, E. Hersey; Housatonic, H. P. Wakefield; Hingham, H. B. Pierce; Bristol, H. Vincent; Plymouth, John E. Merrill, J. A. Gardner; Marshfield, H. C. Comins; Barnstable, J. N. Bagg; Nantucket, J. B. Moore; Martha's Vineyard, S. B. Phinney.

GARDEN SEEDS.—The arrival of the seedsmen's catalogues reminds us that spring is advancing. B. K. Bliss & Sons, as usual, are on hand early with a large and beautifully illustrated annual hand book for the farm and garden. It contains lists of all the standard varieties of farm and garden plants, together with many recently introduced, but which bid fair to find favor as they become better known. The promising potato, "Bliss' Triumph," which was offered for the first time last year, has been reduced in price, as has also the seed of the Egyptian millet, which created something of a sensation among dairymen the past summer. Both of these have been tested at Pine Hedge Farm and their culture will be continued further the coming season.

SHEEP BREEDER'S REGISTER.

The Register of the Vermont Merino Sheep Breeder's Association, Vol. I., is just received from the Secretary, Albert Chapman, Middlebury, Vt. Now, we never owned a sheep of any breed, nor any animal larger than a hen that was known to be eligible to registry in any herd book ever published. Nevertheless, we realize the importance of breeders knowing what kind of blood they are working with, and the necessity of keeping accurate family records of marriages and births among animals as in the human family. Cattle records have been kept for a long while, until the volumes devoted to some of the leading breeds will nearly fill a team wagon, but it is a comparatively new thing to record the name and relationship of our smaller animals, like the sheep, the hog, and the barn-yard fowl.

We have thought that some of this registry work was just a little fine, especially when carried into the pig pen and hen coop, where litters and broods often number a dozen or more, but as sheep breed but little faster than cattle, the difficulty of keeping accurate records would seem much less troublesome, although as sheep run in flocks, which are often very numerous, numbers are used in place of names to a considerable extent in the new sheep register. One thing we can say of this first attempt at keeping a Merino sheep record in this country, that Vol. I. of the Register of the Vermont Association is the most interesting book of the kind we have ever seen, and must be highly valued by all its patrons. Over 200 flocks are recorded by numbers, with owners' names, and nearly 600 stock rams are entered, beginning with Sanford's "Consul," bred by Wm. Jarvis, about 1838.

Aside from the record of animals, the work, which numbers nearly 400 pages, and is beautifully bound, contains a large amount of sheep history that must be of peculiar interest to all breeders of Merinos in this country, and to a considerable extent to breeders abroad, as Vermont Merinos are now in demand for shipment. It must be a little mortifying to the compilers to find more than a page of errata required before the volume can go the public, but considering the obstacles to be encountered in making up such a work, the wonder is that there are not more errors than there are. We congratulate the Vermont Merino sheep breeders that they have been able to do so well.

INDESTRUCTIBILITY OF FAT.

As an instance of the indestructibility of fat applied to the soil, a friend relates the case of a pig that died and was buried in the garden. Many years afterwards, (twenty, if we remember aright) the spot was dug over, and although every particle of the meat and bone had been dissolved and washed away in the soil, still the fat remained and had collected in a solid mass, as though it had been rendered in the soap boiler's kettle. This incident suggests the inquiry whether the lands along our shore, which have been repeatedly dressed with crude fish, in which the oil had not been pressed out, and which now refuse to respond to such applications, have not been permanently injured by this excess of crude fat in the soil. If oil applied to cultivated fields is never decomposed, but remains forever in the soil, coating the little particles as by a coat of paint, and rendering them impervious to water and the roots of plants, then it would certainly seem that its application must bring disaster, and should, by all means, be avoided.

We have heard considerable complaint of land being injured permanently by the application of fish as manure. It was an old custom to put one or two fishes in each hill of corn, and sometimes they were spread broadcast and ploughed under. We would like to hear from our "along shore" readers on this subject, as any information in the matter will be of general interest.

WALTHAM FARMERS' CLUB.

The annual festival of this society was held on Tuesday evening of last week. Unable to be present ourselves, as we should have been most pleased to be, we quote the following brief account of the meeting from the *Advertiser*:—

The festival was held at Rumford Hall, and the attendance was large, completely filling six long tables. After the collation, there were some pleasant speeches. Mr. W. H. Baldwin, of Boston, spoke of the period about thirty years ago when he resided in the town, and of the marked changes that have occurred since. He wished the producer and the consumer of farm products could be brought nearer together, and closed by reading a few statistics showing that the population of the country in 1800 was 5,266,786, while now it is between 45,000,000 and 50,000,000. In the same year the population of Boston was 24,937, of Waltham 903 (now over 10,000,) Weston 1027, Watertown 1207, and Cambridge, which included what is now Brighton, 2453. Lawrence and Lowell were then unknown. It took seventy-four hours in those days for a journey to New York, which can now be accomplished in seven hours.

The Hon. Levi C. Wade of Newton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, was introduced as representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He paid a compliment to the town of Waltham, which is celebrated for its watch manufactory, its cotton mill and other institutions of merit. Turning his attention to the subject of agriculture, he said that Massachusetts is not the best agricultural State, and nothing but the indomitable will and energy of its citizens has enabled it to attain the degree of success it has reached. It is a fact, he continued, that Massachusetts has raised, and can continue to raise, more wheat than some of the wheat-growing States. While in some of the agricultural products there has been a decrease, in others there has been an increase, notably so in regard to the small fruits and vegetables, which, to be raised with profit, must be cultivated near to a market. He thought the course pursued by the farmers, in raising these products for home consumption especially, to be a wise one, and believed it would be continued. He did not think cattle would be largely raised in the State, although some attention might be given to raising fancy breeds.

Other speeches followed, being interspersed with music, and at the close of the literary and musical exercises the hall was cleared and dancing followed, which was kept up until a late hour, making a very pleasant termination to the festival.

VENTILATING DAIRY CELLARS.

E. A. Roth, of Philadelphia, who is engaged in the sale of butter in that city, writes that he has helped a few unfortunate dairymen to improve their dairy products by teaching them how to ventilate their cellars in which milk is kept during the warm season. If we understand the plan, it is to build a ventilating flue from the cellar to the roof of the house, extending it above the roof some five or more feet, and below the floor about one foot. From the lower end there is a ten-inch tin flue or pipe carried the whole length of the cellar, falling some two inches or more to the foot till it reaches the bottom. The cellar windows are left open, but are protected by fine wire gauze. At the top of the flue is an open mouthed receiver kept constantly facing the wind by a vane in the rear.

Mr. Roth claims that some of his customers who were troubled in keeping their milk in hot weather, and sent him poor butter, have, by the use of this flue, which cost but $20, been enabled to send a uniform article through all the summer weather. The lower end of the flue is provided with a gate or slide for regulating the flow of air. The plan seems to be, if we understand it, to send a column of fresh, outside air down into the cellar, where it is cooled in the tin pipe. We know that warm air will rise readily enough in a flue when there is cool air coming in from other sources to take its place, and this downward current *may* work well, but we must confess that we cannot clearly explain the philosophy of it. However, the results are of more importance than the means.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

NEW ENGLAND AG'L SOCIETY.—In our last, we gave the leading officers chosen at the annual meeting in this city, on the 4th inst. We present herewith, a complete list of the official board:—

President—George B. Loring, Salem, Mass.
Vice Presidents—John Hall, North Berwick, Me.; Frederick Smyth, Manchester, N. H.; Geo. Campbell, Westminster, Vt.; S. B. Phinney, Barnstable, Mass.; Wm. E. Barrett, Providence, R. I.; E. H. Hyde, Stafford, Conn.
Secretary—Daniel Needham, Boston, Mass.
Treasurer—Geo. W. Riddle, Manchester, N. H.
Trustees—*Maine*—Charles J. Gilman, Brunswick; Rufus Prince, Turner; Enoch Knight, Portland; Moses H. Hussey, North Berwick; W. S. Tilton, Augusta; Waldo T. Pierce, Bangor; Fred Atwood, Winterport; S. T. Holbrook, Oxford; N. R. Boutelle, Waterville; Seth Scammon, Scarborough; H. L. Whitney, Hebron; S. H. Tewksbury, Portland.

New Hampshire—D. H. Goodell, Antrim; Warren Brown, Hampton Falls; A. W. Quint, Manchester; Natt Head, Hooksett; S. C. Fisher, Dover; Peter W. Jones, Amherst; Chester Pike, Corbinish; Natt Hubbard, Tamworth; E. C. Shirley, Goffstown; Greenleaf Clarke, Atkinson; Waterman Smith, Manchester.

Vermont—A. E. Perkins, Pomfret; L. S. Drew, Burlington; Lawrence Brainard, St. Albans; C. Horace Hubbard, Springfield; Col. J. B. Mead, Randolph; J. H. Peters, Bradford; Henry Clark, Rutland; S. H. Foster, Calais; E. S. Hall, Randolph; T. H. Hoskins, Newport; E. S. Stowell, Cornwall.

Massachusetts—S. H. Howe, Bolton; John Johnson, Framingham; C. B. Pratt, Worcester; J. A. Harwood, Littleton; W. F. Boyd, Mansfield; Leander Wetherell, Boston; Samuel C. Oliver, Salem; E. T. Rowell, Lowell; W. T. Cook, Foxborough; Levi Stockbridge, Amherst; George Notyes, Boston.

Rhode Island—Amasa Sprague, Cranston; Obadiah Brown, Providence; Wm. H. Hopkins, East Providence; William Elsbree, Cranston; Joseph F. Brown, Providence; Isaac Hazard, Providence; William Whitcomb, Cedar Grove; John D. Cranston, Wickford; Wm. P. Vaughn, Smithfield; George E. Waring, Newport.

Connecticut—J. P. Barstow, Norwich; S. M. Wells, Wethersfield; O. B. King, Watertown; Samuel Colt, Farmington; T. S. Gold, West Cornwall; John Dimon, Putnam; B. Sumner, Woodstock; John T. Rockwell, Winsted; F. Batchford Starr, Litchfield; P. M. Augur, Middlefield; J. J. Webb, New Haven.

LUNENBURG FARMERS' CLUB.—This society has elected the following officers: President, Stillman Stone; Vice President, George S. Gilchrest; Secretary, Herbert O. Mead; Treasurer, John F. Brown.

WINDHAM CO., VT., POMONA GRANGE.—The Pomona Grange, P. of H., of Windham Co., has chosen the following officers:—Master, E. S. Allen, Jacksonville; Overseer, Geo. W. Walker, Dummerston; Lecturer, Geo. H. Houghton, Townshend; Steward, Orson Thayer, Guilford; Ass't Steward, C. W. Sargent, Brattleboro; Chaplain, J. Holbrook, Brattleboro; Treasurer, H. K. Chamberlain, Brattleboro; Sec'y, Clark Chandler, Wilmington; Gatekeeper, J. E. Welles, Wardsboro; Ceres, Mrs. A. C. Franklin, Newfane; Pomona, Mrs. E. S. Allen, Jacksonville; Flora, Mrs. G. B. Williams, Williamsville; L. A. S., Mrs. G. B. Sargent, Brattleboro.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The Grafton County, N. H., Agricultural Society has passed a vote to the effect that all liquor and pool selling and games of chance of any character shall hereafter be strictly prohibited on their grounds. A committee, consisting of Manson S. Brown, Hon. Joseph Burrows and David Tenney was appointed, to see that no intoxicating liquors shall be sold in Plymouth during the days of the fair.

DAIRY FAIR ASSOCIATION.—As proposed, at the close of the Dairy Fair held in New York in December last, a meeting was held in Utica, the third week in January, for the purpose of forming a permanent organization, to be called the International Dairy Fair Association. From J. H. Real, New York city, we have received a report of said meeting, which is too lenghty for our columns at this time. From it we gather the following items: The organization was effected by the adoption of a constitution and by-laws, and by the choice of F. D. Thurber, president; F. D. Moulton, 1st vice president; T. Mortimer Seaver, secretary; W. E. Smith, treasurer, and an extended list of vice presidents located in every dairy State in the Union, and several in Canada and England. The cost of membership is fixed at $5, and an annual fee of $2.

EXTRACTS AND REPLIES.

WHOLE WHEAT FLOUR.

I wish some one would inform me, through the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, where can be obtained a kind of fine wheat flour, containing the bran portion of the wheat reduced to an even fineness with the white. I have read in some newspaper that a flour with such properties is much used in Boston, but do not know its commercial name. I think, however, that it is called "Attrition Flour." Physicians to whom I have spoken of it, think that it would be of great importance to those suffering from nervous prostration, when, on account of a weakness of digestion "Graham," from its coarseness and irritating effects, cannot be used. E. F.
W. Pawlet, Vt., 1879.

REMARKS.—There is a "Health Food Company" in New York, with branches in Boston and other cities, who manufacture various kinds of food from wheat. We recently called into the Boston branch, at 63 Commercial street, and learned what we could concerning the aims and objects of the firm. Of course, the first object is to make money, and to do this it is necessary first to manufacture a good quality of goods, and second, to create a demand for them. From the published circulars furnished by the company, one might almost be led to believe that no other food but that made by this company is fit for human consumption, for they claim that full one-half of the real food contained in bread made from ordinary crushed or ground wheat, passes through the digestive apparatus unchanged, being not only a dead loss, but a real injury. The old theory taught in all our school physiologies, that a portion of coarse material is needed in food to render it most wholesome, is pronounced utterly false, and that nothing should be taken into the stomach that cannot be easily and entirely digested. From one hundred pounds of ordinary wheat, this company claim to remove "seven pounds of dirt, wood, and silex peeling each kernel as one peels a potato or a tomato." Of course this last statement needs a little qualification, as the peeling process is

New England Farmer.

BOSTON:
SATURDAY, FEBUARY 15, 1879.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Advertisements, 1st insertion, 12 cts. per line.
Each subsequent insertion, 8 " " "
Business Notices, first " 15 " " "
Each subsequent " 12 " " "
Reading Matter Notices, . . . 50 " " "

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Our foreign news is quite interesting There is considerable excitement in England over the pleuro-pneumonia which is believed to be prevalent among American cattle, and the authorities are taking precautions against its spread. It is reported that the Privy Council has decided that no more cattle shall be landed at the Liverpool docks after March 1, unless provision is made for their slaughter on the quay. It is believed that the cases already discovered were due principally to severe weather while on their way to market. The strike in Liverpool has been serious, and an outbreak was only suppresnd by force. More reduction of wages is announced, but the distress at Glasgow is alleviated. Lord Dufferin has been appointed Minister to Russia, and Lord Lofius, whom he succeeds, has been appointed Governor-General of New South Wales. The French Cabinet has been reorganized, with M. Waddington at the head. President Grevy's inaugural address gives great satisfaction. The Schleswig question is again the cause of diplomatic correspondence between Germany and Denmark. A recall of Ministers by the Government is considered probable. Russia is working hard to put an end to the plague. Stanley, the African explorer, is to lead another expedition. The British forces are reported driving the Zulus in Africa. The Ameer of Afghanistan is sick, and has abandoned his contemplated journey to Tashkend. Yakoob Khan reports to his father daily. The British troops are advancing with distrust on Cabul, because of the treacherous conduct of the mountaineers, who profess to be friends to the invaders. A definitive treaty of peace between Russia and Turkey has been concluded. The Turkish war indemnity to Russia is fixed at 300,000,000 paper roubles, the conquerors to evacuate Turkish soil within forty days after the ratification of the treaty. England has concluded the purchase of Cyprus. Other items of interest are given in our summary.

Later advices are important. The English Government has not prohibited the landing of American cattle. It is estimated that there are between 50,000 and 60,000 persons now on strike in Liverpool. Prince Bismarck's parliamentary discipline bill passed the Prussian federal council. It is reported that General Chanzy is to become the French minister to Russia. The provisions of the treaty between Turkey and Russia are given. Advices from Cape Town, South Africa, of Jan. 21, state that on that day an entire British column was completely annihilated near the Tugela river by 20,000 Zulus, who captured a large amount of war material, besides killing about fifty English officers and five hundred soldiers. It is estimated that the Zulu loss will reach five thousand in killed and wounded. Several attacks made subsequent to the 21st were repulsed by the British, but they were finally compelled to withdraw their forces across the border, and will await re-enforcements before again taking the offensive.

Pacific Coast advices report that the Bonanza and Sutro tunnel parties have settled their differences. The anti-polygamy society of Utah have petitioned Congress to enforce the anti-polygamy law.

There remains but little time for the present Congress, and much business. The appropriation bills are under debate, and the naval and Indian appropriation bills have passed. The bill reorganizing the army has been added to the army appropriation bill, in the House. A bill providing extra pay for soldiers of the American war was passed. Other matters of interest are noted elsewhere.

The Massachusetts Legislature continues to labor on retrenchment, and the bills are nearly all perfected by which reductions are made in all the departments. A flood of new business was poured in on the 5th, much of which will doubtless never reach the engrossing stage. A bill was introduced in the House which practically abolishes the poll tax. The Legislature is taking steps to protect the State's interest in the Hoosac Tunnel. The Representatives want free railroad rides. As no more new business can be introduced, it is supposed that the Legislature will now begin to hurry up the day of adjournment.

The Vermont Supreme Court has refused to grant a new trial to John P. Phair, and he will be executed in April, unless his sentence is commuted.

The silver dollars are piling up in the treasury much faster than they can be forced into circulation, and it is becoming a question of some interest as to how the Government can find storage for them.

More legislation is wanted on the new pension bill—to say nothing of the money needed to start it in operation.

The Bank Commissioners have temporarily enjoined the Needham Savings Bank. It will probably be closed up.

A man named Elliot was murdered near Bangor last week, and there is no trace of his murderer.

The weather has been cold most of the week, but on Tuesday the thermometer began rising, and toward night a heavy rain storm set in which has cleared off the remnants of the snow in our streets. Wednesday opens rainy, with every indication of the storm lasting through the day.

THE CATTLE DISEASE.—There does not appear to be any good reason for the scare over pleuro-pneumonia among American cattle, reported in our foreign dispatches. We have not heard of it as serious, anywhere on this side of the water. There are always more or less cases of it to be found. The Dominion authorities have prohibited the importation of American cattle into the Provinces for three months from the 10th inst. A dispatch of the 10th, from New York, says:—

Professor Law, of Cornell University, who, by direction of Gov. Robinson, is inspecting the cow stables in Brooklyn and elsewhere, reports several cases of pleuro pneumonia in distillery stables in different parts of that city and on Long Island. Eleven cattle suffering from pleuro-pneumonia were captured by the police on a train at West Chester yesterday. They were sent back from Watertown, Conn., on Saturday night.

MASS. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Within a short time, a committee of the alumni of the Massachusetts College have drawn up and presented to the Board of Trustees an address severely criticising the management of that institution. The address has been privately circulated, and it is only within a few days that any abstract of its strictures has found its way into the public prints. It is too lengthy for full reproduction, but its principal charges are as follows:—

Asserting their belief that the College has done and is doing good educational work, the committee proceed to specify the ground of their arraignment. First, the financial management of the institution is declared bad. Officers' salaries have frequently been several months in arrears, and the credit of the College is so poor that mechanics refuse to work for it. The farm hands have been paid by "orders" on the village storekeepers, until they also refused to trust the College, and one of the Professors, out of pity, advanced the workmen over $1500 for the orders. This, certainly, shows mismanagement.

They recommend a reduction of the President's salary to $2250, not thinking it right that he should take *one-third* the income of the College, as heretofore. The mathematical department should be curtailed—they do not think it advisable to fit students for civil engineers, when there is another institution, intended and amply endowed for such education—the Institute of Technology. The farm accounts show a deficit of $1500, without reckoning interest on investment. They do not think it wise to seek aid from the State for current expenses.

They recognize President Clark's services, in organizing and managing the institution, and recommend the selection of a man for President who will accept the position not for the sake of the office or the salary, but largely because of his attachment to the work. They also recommend various changes in the course of study, being convinced that the standard of scholarship should be raised. The discipline of the students is spoken of as far from what it ought to be, and they are accused of slighting their studies, damaging the College property, &c. They recommend the abolition of tuition, the dismissal of boarding house keepers, and the plan of boarding in commons. They think $2.50 per week enough to pay for good, wholesome food, and assert that the food has often been bad.

"The raising of fancy stock of all kinds should be given up for the present, and only that kept which will best serve the purpose of supplying the students with meat, eggs, milk, &c. We were taught when at the college that to cultivate more land than could be cultivated well was bad practice. We believe more land is being cultivated without proper manuring or proper tillage, than is considered good practice—at least for an agricultural college."

The committee indorse the suggestion that the alumni should be represented on the board of trustees, and express the belief that, when vacancies in professorships occur at the college, these chairs should be filled from among the graduates. The address is signed by E. H. Libby, '74, W. A. Macleod, '76, E. E. Thompson, '71, W. H. Bowker, '71, E. B. Bragg, '75, Committee of the Associate Alumni.

This called forth a response from President Clark, who, in a sharp, indignant letter, denies all the assertions of the committee. He asserts that the Professors are paid promptly, and have not been unpaid thirty days for the last ten years; that the college has never given an order; and that no Professor ever advanced $1500 for the relief of laborers. Charges of extravagance are denied, and one of the committee is accused of having received $700 from the College, on the labor account, and to be still indebted $250 to the institution for tuition. He defends the people of Amherst from the charge of sharp dealings with the students; defends the management of the chemical and mathematical departments, declaring that a College which omitted such studies would be unworthy the name; that the military department has not interfered with any other department; ridicules the plan of "commons" and a steward; and shows the impracticability of their financial plans, in that they propose that the trustees "shall deliberately attempt to do with $15,000 what cannot be properly accomplished with less than $23,000."

There is undoubtedly force in President Clark's reply, but we regret that its tone is not in better temper. To the unprejudiced reader, it very much appears as if Mr. Clark had been made uncomfortable by the pertinency of some of the strictures, had allowed himself to forget the dignity which belongs to his office, and had made his reply a means of gratifying his resentment against his critics.

The matter came before the Board of Agriculture at its recent meeting, and a special committee was appointed to examine into the charges. A hearing was given at the office of the Secretary of the Board on Tuesday, when there were present of the alumni who signed the address Messrs. Libby, Bowker, McLeod and Bragg, and Mr. Myrick, of '78, offered his testimony. The charges were inquired into and the following is the substance of the evidence:—

Mr. Bragg of the class of '75 made a statement for the alumni. He said that the pay of professors and other employes was often largely in arrears, and that the storekeepers of Amherst were willing to sell goods on personal credit rather than on the credit of the college The alumni thought it highly discreditable to the institution to delay the payment of farm laborers for a number of months, when they are in daily need of money for the support of their families. Professor Stockbridge had from time to time advanced $1500 from his own pocket to meet the demands of the creditors. The books of the college not being present, the further investigation of charges of financial mismanagement was postponed until they could be produced in support of the allegations.

Mr. Briggs further stated that students are required to pay $10 per term to the department of chemistry, making it more than self-supporting, so that there has been no drain on the funds of the college from this source. This fund should have remained to the credit of this department, and not be used for other college purposes. The management of this department is good, but more funds are needed to make it thoroughly efficient. Messrs. W. A. McLeod, E. H. Libby and Myrick of the alumni committee testified to a lack of discipline among the students. They affirmed that the students understood that the attendance at the college was so small that no one would be discharged for poor scholarship or bad conduct, and so they did about as they pleased. Instances of shirking, wanton destruction of college property and other gross offences that were overlooked by the faculty were given.

The next charge was poor board and other accommodation furnished the students, and also of lack of courtesy on the part of college officers, especially to visitors at the farm. It was also claimed that excessive prices for text books are demanded. Considerable time was devoted to details, the witnesses being cross-questioned by Hon. Marshall P. Wilder and others of the Board of Trustees present.

The committee will take the charges and evidence under consideration, and, if possible, will report upon them in time for the report to be printed in the annual report of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Saturday, 8th, a train on the Boston, Revere & Gardner R. R., ran off the track at North Worcester owing to the spreading of the rails. Little damage was done. By some misunderstanding a train ordered to wait the wrecking train at Barber's Crossing, proceeded toward the scene of the accident and came in collision with the wrecking train, both trains being under high speed. One engine and one car were demolished. Mr. E. W. Vaill was seriously injured, and Mr. N. C. Stone, train dispatcher, died from his wounds. The accident is attributed to gross carelessness.

THE MEXICAN WAR VETERANS.—The President will sign the House bill passed by the Senate on Saturday making the necessary appropriations for giving three months extra pay to those officers, soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the Mexican war, but who have not drawn that extra pay. The entire amount will not exceed $40,000.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

D. Appleton & Co., New York, publish a series of "*Health Primers*," in which by competent authorities are discussed some of the more important problems relating to health and its preservation. The series is in the charge of four eminent English physicians and scientists, and there is a long list of contributors. The volumes already issued are on *Exercise and Training*, in which the bearing of these matters on the physical well-being is set forth, and the proper methods discussed; on *Alcohol; Its Use and Abuse*; on the *House and Its Surroundings*, containing facts of great importance with regard to soil, drainage, water-supply, ventilation, &c.; and *Premature Death, Its Promotion or Prevention*, an account of the origin and treatment of what are called preventable diseases, showing how a reasonable amount of care will reduce them to a minimum. It will be seen that these subjects are of great importance, and should receive public attention. The volumes are deserving careful perusal, and are published in neat cloth binding at 40 cts. each.

The same publishers make some notable additions to their list of books of fiction, the latest being *My Guardian*, a story by Ada Cambridge, with fifteen illustrations by Frank Dicksee; *Tales from the German of Paul Heyne*, four charming tales by the author of "In Paradise," and *Modern Fishers of Men, among the Various Sexes, Sects and Sets of Chartville Church and Community*, an anonymous story, told in a lively style, and embodying some truths which are perhaps more effective than in a more serious form. The same publishers issue in their "Handy Volume Series," "*The Multitudinous Seas*," by S. G. W. Benjamin. The author presents the picturesque and poetical aspects of the sea, mingling bits of descriptions, lively incidents, reflections and suggestions, and has made a very entertaining volume. Price, 25c.

From the same publishers we have *A Glossary of Biological, Anatomical and Physiological Terms*, by Thomas Dunman. It will be found a very useful work of reference, especially for students. Price, $1.

The above are for sale at the Appletons' agency, No. 9 Hawley St., and by W. B. Clarke.

THE PENSION ARREARS.

The commissioner of pensions has written a letter on the arrears pension bill which must receive attention from Congress. He has been studying the effect of the late law since its passage, and finds that it introduces great difficulties into conducting the business of the office. The repealing clause attached to the bill gives rise to many legal perplexities, which will seriously affect the pension laws. He has found it necessary to stop the issue of new pensions entirely until he can ascertain the wishes and purposes of Congress. He estimates now that $34,000,000 will be required for the cases now granted, $2,500,000 for the rest of this year, and, if the work continues, $5,000,000 for next year. As this was designed as a bill to equalize pensions, that result cannot be attained in regard to all pensions hereafter granted, since they will date back with all late increase in rates, while those on the rolls will be carried back only with the rate of pension at the time it was granted in each particular case. The letter makes it plain that further legislation on the subject is imperatively needed.

JOHN P. PHAIR.—*New Trial Refused.*—The hearing in the case of John P. Phair, at Rutland, Vt., who was convicted in Sept., '74, of the murder of Mrs. Frieze, a disreputable woman of Rutland, has at last ended in the refusal of the Supreme Court to grant him a new trial. Phair was sentenced to be hung in April, 1877, when his life was prolonged by the alleged discovery of evidence tending to prove his innocence. His case was brought before the Vermont Legislature, and after the most persevering efforts on the part of a few gentlemen, permission was granted Phair to appear before the Supreme Bench by counsel and petition for a new trial, on the ground that new evidence had been discovered demonstrating his innocence. But, after a patient hearing of the testimony given in the first trial, and the main features of the new evidence, the Court decided that a reasonable doubt of the prisoner's innocence had not been established, and Phair, if he lives until the day appointed for his execution, April 4, 1879, will end his life upon the gallows.

MURDER IN MAINE.—On Wednesday of last week, Wm. B. Elliot of Glenburn, Me., was found murdered and rolled up in a blanket by the side of the road about two miles from Bangor. On the sled on which he was riding home when killed were bags of feed, which are bloody, and an axe, the pole of which has blood and hair on it. There were four or five wounds on the head, which, made with the axe, fractured the skull. He was alive when found, but died soon after. His murderer is unknown, but supposed to be a man who left Elliot's team at the E. & N. A. R. R. depot, early in the evening, and has not been seen since. There is no clue.

BOSTON MUSEUM.—Another success has been inaugurated this week, in the production of "*The Little Duke*" at this place of amusement. A adapted for the Museum, the opera has been completely freed from any objectionable feature of the original French, while it retains all its fun and spirit. The music, which is in Lecoq's best vein, is retained, and several of the songs will become favorites. Miss Alice Harrison, who takes the title role, plays her part with good effect, and shows appreciation of the humor of the piece. Miss Temple and Mr. Jones are also worthy of special approval. The other parts are creditably done, the chorus is full and sings well, and, as a whole, the piece is given with even better musical effect than was shown in "*Pinafore*." The orchestra has been augmented, and is ably led by Mr. Braham. A part of the Museum company are to visit the leading New England cities, and will produce "*My Son*," with the same cast and all the effect given it at the Museum.

GLOUCESTER VESSEL LOST.—The schooner Cunard, of Gloucester, Garrett Galvin, master, with a crew of 12 all told, has been missing since last October, and is undoubtedly lost with all on board.

PERUVIAN GUANO.—For farms, gardens, lawns, and everywhere, a fertilizer is needed. Peruvian Guano has no superior, and the report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, it is strongly recommended as a most valuable and reliable article. Messrs. C. L. Bartlett & Co., 16 Broad St., Boston, keep in store all grades of Peruvian Guano, and will send pamphlets giving full directions as to its use on application by mail or at their office.

"YOU DON'T KNOW THEIR VALUE."—"They cured me of Agne, Biliousness and Kidney Complaint, as recommended. I had a half bottle left which I used for my two little girls, whom the doctors and neighbors said could not be cured. I am confident I should have lost both of them one night if I had not had the Hop Bitters in my house to use. I found they did them so much good I continued with them, and they are now well. That is why I say you do not know half the value of Hop Bitters, and do not recommend them highly enough.'—*B., Rochester, N. Y.*

Political Intelligence.

XLV. CONGRESS.---SECOND SESSION.

On Wednesday of last week, in the Senate, a bill was reported authorizing the purchase of a site for the location of a new naval observatory, erection of a building and the removal of the present observatory. The Senate, after a protracted debate, by a vote of 23 to 17, passed the Edmunds' resolutions declaring the validity of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution. The House, after cutting out the largest appropriations, passed the Mississippi levee bill by a vote of 155 to 73. As passed, it provides for the appointment of a commission to examine into the whole question of improvements, and to report the results of their labors to the next Congress. The House went into committee of the whole on the army appropriation bill. The army reorganization bill was submitted as an amendment, and admitted.

Several bills and resolutions were presented in the Senate, Thursday, and the bill providing for taking the tenth and subsequent censuses was passed. A resolution was adopted instructing the Commissioner of Agriculture to inquire in regard to certain reports recently put in circulation in this country and elsewhere concerning infectious diseases among horned cattle. In the House, the bill making appropriations for the payment of claims, reported allowed by the claims commissioners, was passed, and in committee of the whole the Banning amendment to the army appropriation bill (reorganizing the army) was adopted by a vote of 101 to 91. An amendment was submitted for the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War department. Also, a substitute for this amendment authorizing the President to transfer the care and control of any Indian tribes to the War department, temporarily, whenever he may deem it advisable, either on account of hostile action on their part against the United States or in the case of any difficulties arising between them and the settlers.

In the Senate, Friday, the bill extending the provisions of the act of June 8, 1874, in regard to prize money to all fleet officers was passed, as was also a bill for the admission of women to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States. In the House, the Senate amendments to the naval appropriation bill and the conference committee's report on the Indian appropriation bill were agreed to.

The Senate, Saturday, passed the Indian appropriation bill. The total amount appropriated by the bill as agreed upon by the conference committee is $4,713,206.83, being $33,068.81 less than appropriated by the bill for the current fiscal year. It also passed the bill providing for payment to officers and soldiers of the Mexican war, of three months' extra pay provided for by the act of July 19, 1848. In the House, the army appropriation bill was passed, the amendment transferring the care of the Indians from the Interior to the War department being defeated. The amendment authorizing railroad companies having telegraph lines to transmit messages for the Government and the public, at rates to be fixed by the Government, was adopted. The amendment for a reorganization of the army was adopted by a vote of 116 to 92. The authority to have troops at the polls to keep the peace was rejected, 110 to 95, as was also the power to establish government buildings as military headquarters in time of peace. The bill to make silver coin exchangeable for greenbacks was tabled by a vote of 127 to 104.

The Senate, Monday, passed the bill authorizing the issue of certificates of deposit in aid of refunding the public debt, after adopting an amendment making the rate of interest four per cent. instead of three. Mr. McCreery spoke for upward of an hour in favor of transferring the Indian bureau to the War department. Mr. Paddock called up the resolution submitted on the 4th of December by Mr. Davis of West Virginia, instructing the Committee on Agriculture to consider what can and ought to be done by the General Government to encourage and foster agricultural interests. Mr. Paddock spoke at length of the importance of the agricultural interests of the country, and the necessity for Congress taking action to build up that interest. He favored the establishment of a national academy of agriculture similar to West Point, where all sciences relating to agriculture shall be taught. The resolution was agreed to. In the House, an ineffectual attempt was made to suspend the rules and pass the bill repealing the test-oath section in the Revised Statutes. A motion to suspend the rules and pass a bill to establish postal savings banks was defeated—yeas 39, nays 184. Thursday next was set apart for the consideration of the sugar bill, and the legislative, executive and judiciary appropriation bill was discussed at considerable length, without, however, reaching a vote.

The naval appropriation bill, in an amended form, passed the Senate, Tuesday. It appropriates $14,029,968.95. The post-office appropriation bill was reported back with various important amendments, and the bill to provide additional accommodations for the congressional library was discussed at length, without, however, taking action thereon. The House passed the naval appropriation bill as it came from the Senate, and discussed until the hour of adjournment the question of reorganizing the government surveys. The river and harbor appropriation bill was reported.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

Wednesday of last week was the last day for the introduction of new business, public and private, and it was improved to the utmost advantage. So large an amount of new business in one day has not been known before in the Legislature for years. Petitions were not so numerous as in previous days, but the lack of legislative material from their constituents in form of petitions was abundantly made up by the orders from the members themselves. A large number of miscellaneous matters were introduced, and the Legislature will have to sit all summer unless summary treatment is visited upon a large proportion of the matters. The several salary bills were advanced one stage in the different houses. All proposed amendments failed, except one fixing the salary of the Governor's private secretary at $1500, and an immaterial change as to the number of messengers and pages. The Senate received more than double the amount of business that it has on any previous day this session, mostly in the form of orders. There were in all seventy papers. Among the reports of committees was one from the retrenchment committee fixing salaries in the deputy tax commissioners' department. There was considerable discussion on the salary bills which were before the Senate, but they were ordered to a third reading without amendment.

In the Senate, Thursday, the committee on street railways reported a bill to regulate the running of horse cars in the city of Boston, the principal feature in which is a provision for licensing conductors, drivers and starters. There was considerable discussion on an amendment to the bill fixing the salaries in the tax commissioners' department, offered by Mr. Bishop, raising the salary of the commissioner from $2500 to $3000, the present figure. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 17 to 10. In the House, the bill providing for the composition of claims in insolvency cases was rejected without debate and without division. A bill was introduced from the committee on railroads, based on order of Mr. Hill of Boston, providing that the State directors of the Boston & Albany Railroad be chosen by the Governor and council. A bill was reported fixing the jurors' fees at $2 50 per day instead of $3 50 per day, as at the present time. The House passed to be engrossed, without debate, the bill fixing the salaries in the department of the Secretary of State, and that concerning salaries in the auditor's department received an equally easy passage to the third reading. In the Senate, however, the measure to reduce the salaries in the tax commissioner's office was debated at length. Mr. Bishop of Middlesex supported his minority report against a reduction of the deputy commissioner's salary, and the amount payable for extra clerk-hire was raised from $10,000 to $11,000.

On Friday, the Senate concurred in the House amendments to the bills fixing salaries in the legislative and executive departments, without debate, and passed to be engrossed, with one or two small amendments, the bill fixing salaries of minor Statehouse officers. All the other matters in the orders were advanced without change. But little new business was introduced. The feature of the day in the House was the debate on the bill fixing the pay of jurors at two and a half dollars a day. It was a measure of the retrenchment committee, and was ably sustained by them, but the House stood eighty to seventy-six in favor of making the pay three dollars a day. The resolve directing the Attorney General to take steps to protect the State's interest in the tunnel line, now threatened by the suit to redeem the mortgage, was deemed so important that the rules were suspended and it passed to be enacted. A bill which practically abolishes the poll tax passed to a third reading. It provides that the State, county and town or city taxes shall be assessed separately and that each shall be specified in the tax bill. Both branches adjourned to Monday.

In the Senate, Monday, the principal discussion was on the bill relative to the taxation of savings banks. The bill was laid on the table after fruitless attempts to so amend as to lower the rate of taxation. In the House, the bill concerning the separate assessment of State, county and town taxes, which is found to contain such a mischievous proposition, was laid upon the table. A bill came up from the judiciary committee to incorporate the Thayer academy in accordance with the will of the late General Sylvanus Thayer in Braintree. Several reports came from the taxation committee, generally unfavorable to some project about taxation. After considerable debate, the House voted, seventy-nine to ninety-eight, not to reject the bill providing that members of the Legislature shall have free passes over railroads. Governor Talbot sent to the House the resolutions from the Governor of Alabama, taking occasion to express his positive dissent from the principles in them. The idea in the resolutions is that counties and municipalities are portions of the sovereignty of the State, and that they should be legally exempt from suits at law for the recovery of debts due.

In the Senate, Tuesday, a bill was introduced making provisions to avoid double taxation of property. The county commissioners of Franklin County petitioned for authority to borrow $10,000 to repair the county jail. A remonstrance was presented, signed by many citizens of Waltham, against granting the location of the Massachusetts Central Railroad Company in that town. The receivers of the Rockport Savings Bank presented their first report. It showed a nominal surplus of nearly $13,000 after a dividend of 25 per cent. has been paid. In the House, the bill relating to unpaid taxes was ordered to a third reading by a large majority, and after amendment which reduces the interest on unpaid taxes from one per cent a month to seven per cent a year. The bill to incorporate the trustees of the Braintree academy after debate, passed to a third reading. A bill was introduced making it the duty of cities to pay all day laborers weekly. Also, a bill for the protection of children who are treated with cruelty or have been abandoned by their parents or guardians. The salary bill relating to the treasurer's department was ordered to a third reading with slight amendment and no debate.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.

In this body, there have been few matters of special importance to note, the past week. The Committee on the Reform School report a resolve for $10,000 for the running expenses of that school, and $1000 to provide additional protection against fire. They will probably decide on a resolve giving $4000 to the Industrial School. The Committee on Interior Waters voted leave to withdraw on the petition of the Sprague Manufacturing Company to be relieved from maintaining a lock or fishway in their Kennebec dam at Augusta. The Judiciary Committee will draft a bill limiting the amount for which towns shall be liable for damages on highways to $2000; also that towns shall not be liable for damages sustained on account of ice and snow on sidewalks. The druggists' bill was indefinitely postponed, by a vote of 125 to 21. The act revoking the city charter of Hallowell has passed the House. The Senate concurs in the salary bill, making the Governor's salary $1500. Inquiry was ordered in regard to the removal of the capital to Portland or Bangor.

The judiciary committee has voted against biennial elections and sessions of the Legislature, there being only two in favor of such a measure. They voted also against the abolition of the executive council and against the election of the Governor by a plurality vote, thus recommending no change in the constitution.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

The Legislature of Minnesota has fixed the legal rate of interest in that State at 10 per cent.

The President has nominated N. P. Banks to be Marshal for the District of Massachusetts, J. N. Patterson to be Marshal for the District of New Hampshire, Martin I. Townsend to be Attorney of United States for the Northern District of New York, and ex-Gov. Hartranft of Pennsylvania for postmaster at Philadelphia.

The Indianapolis *Journal* calls upon the Indiana Legislature to adopt some system by which the people of that State will be protected against the school-book nuisance, which causes them to pay out $750,000 a year which can be saved by proper legislation.

The West Virginia Legislature has rescinded its vote requesting its delegation in Congress to vote for the Texas Pacific subsidy.

Mr. M. P. Kennard has been appointed to the Boston Sub-Treasurership. He will provide the required bonds.

Old Virginia finds herself bankrupt. On the 6th, the Auditor of Public Accounts informed the General Assembly that the State Treasury was entirely depleted, and asked that means be devised to raise funds for current expenses. On the 7th, a bill passed both houses authorizing the Governor to borrow $200,000 at 6 per cent., the same to be refunded on or before the 15th of June next, and pledging the revenues of the State for the payment thereof.

The Hon. Jonathan A. Lane, who served as an Executive Councilor for the unexpired term of Hon. W. Tucker last year, has sent a note to the State Treasurer, declining to receive the salary of the office, amounting to $261.30, but accepting $100, which he considers to be about $5 per day.

The Governor of Maine has nominated Geo. G. Stacy for Librarian.

Senator Christiancy tendered his resignation of the Senatorship to the Governor of Michigan Monday, and Zach Chandler will probably be elected to succeed him on the 18th inst., so that he can be at Washington during the last week of the session.

The total number of bills offered in the Connecticut Legislature this year is about 350, or about 20 more than last year. Friday, 7th, was the last day for the reception of new business, and some 70 bills were presented. If the committees are active, there will be no necessity of prolonging the session beyond its usual limit. It is thought that the Legislature may adjourn by March 20, if not before.

The Wisconsin Legislature is asked to consider a bill cutting down the rates of railroads and telegraphs and express lines 25 per cent.

The Illinois Senate has almost unanimously passed a resolution asking the delegation in Congress from that State to favor such legislation as will forever prohibit the appropriation of money for the payment of Southern war claims.

At a joint caucus of Democratic Congressmen, Monday night, it was agreed to attach to the pending legislative bill a section for the repeal of all laws giving the general Government the right to supervise elections for President and members of Congress; also to repeal the sections regarding the administration of test oaths to jurors in United States courts.

General Garfield has written a letter declining the Republican candidacy for the Governorship of Ohio.

The Markets.

BOSTON RETAIL PRICES.

Inside of Faneuil Hall Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 12, 1879.

[Corrected weekly by HILTON & WOODWARD, No. 5, *Veal and Mutton;* GEO. H. RUSSELL, Nos. 17 & 19 *Poultry and Game;* H. BIRD & CO., Nos. 38 & 40, *Beef, Pork, Lard and Hams;* C. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO., Nos. 79 & 81, *Butter, Cheese and Eggs;* SANDS, FURBER & CO., Nos. 88 & 90, *Fruit and Vegetables;* SHATTUCK & JONES, No. 128, *Fish;* GEO. E. RICHARDSON & CO., No. 1, F. H. Square, *Fruit and Nuts.*]

Butter, Cheese and Eggs.

Butter, ₩ lb—	Cheese, ₩ lb . . 12 @ 15
Lump . . . 25 @ 35	Sage, ₩ lb . . 14 @ 15
Prime . . . 25 @ 30	Neufchatel, ea . . 03 @ 04
2d quality . . 23 @ 25	Eggs, ₩ doz . . 28 @ 30
common, . . 18 @ 20	

Fruits and Berries.

Apples—	Hamburg, lb . . @ 5 00
new, ₩ bbl . 1 50 @ 2 00	Malaga, ₩ lb . 20 @ 50
Cocoanuts, ea . . 6 @ 10	Lemons, ₩ doz . 25 @ 30
Grapes—	Oranges, ₩ doz 12 @ 50

Fruits and Nuts--Dry and Canned.

Almonds, ₩ lb . 25 @ 40	Pecans ₩ lb . . @ 20
shelled, ₩ lb . 50 @ 60	Prunes, ₩ lb . . 15 @ 20
Apples, ₩ lb . . 10 @ 12	Peaches, ₩ lb . 20 @ 25
Chestnuts, ₩ qt . . @ 30	₩ qt can . . @ 60
Chestnuts, qt . . @ 30	Raisins, lay'rs ₩ lb 25 @ 33
Citron, ₩ lb . . 25 @ 30	keg, ₩ lb . . 10 @ 15
Dates, ₩ lb . . 10 @ 15	Shaglarks, ₩ qt 10 @ 15
Figs, ₩ lb . . 15 @ 40	Walnuts, English 15 @ 20
Filberts, ₩ qt . . @ 20	Naples, ... @ 20
Peanuts, ₩ lb . 10 @ 15	Zante cur'ts, ₩ lb10 @ 12

Vegetables.

Beans, ₩ pk . . 50 @ 75	₩ barrel . . 2 75 @ 3 50
Beets, ₩ bch . . 04 @ 06	Squash, ₩ lb . . @ 4
Cabbage, ea . . 10 @ 15	Sage and Thyme—
Carrots, ₩ pk . . @ 25	₩ bunch . . . . @ 6
Celery, ₩ bch . . 15 @ 20	Salsify, ₩ bch . . @ 10
Leeks, bch . . . 6 @ 8	Spinach, ₩ pk . . @ 30
Lettuce ₩ head . 6 @ 10	Squashes—
Onions, ₩ pk . . 60 @ 75	Marrow, ₩ lb . . @ 3½
Parsnips, ₩ pk . . @ 35	Hubbard, ₩ lb . . @ 3½
Peas, split, ₩ qt . . @ 10	Tomatoes, crate, . @ 2 00
Potatoes, ₩ pk . . @ 35	Turnips, ₩ pk . . @ 25
₩ bushel . . 1 10 @ 1 75	

Meats--Fresh.

Beef, ₩ lb—	Lard, leaf, . . . @ 8
Sirloin steak 25 @ 28	Tried . . . . 7 @ 8
Round do. . . 14 @ 15	Mutton—
Rib, roast . . 10 @ 20	legs, ₩ lb . . 14 @ 18
Chuck rib . . 6 @ 8	fore q'r, ₩ lb . 8 @ 10
Plate and navls 7 @ 8	chops . . . . 14 @ 18
Soup pieces . 3 @ 4	Pork, ₩ lb
Liver . . . . 7 @ 8	Roast and stks 7 @ 8
Hearts, ₩ lb . 3 @ 6	Suet, ₩ lb . . 8 @ 10
Hogs, round, ₩ lb . @ 5½	Tallow, ₩ lb . . 7 @ 8
Haslet, sheep, ea . @ .	Veal, ₩ qr ₩ lb 12 @ 15
Kidneys, each . . @ 20	fore qr . . . 8 @ 12
Lamb—	loins . . . . 15 @ 20
hind qr ₩ lb . 12 @ 16	Sweetbreads, 50 @ 75
fore qr ₩ lb . 8 @ 10	

Meats--Salt, Smoked, &c.

Pork, hams, ₩ lb 13 @ 10	smoked, ea . 1 00 @ 1 25
Bacon, ₩ lb . 9 @ 10	Sheep, do. ₩ dz . 50
Shoulders, ₩ lb 6 @ 7	Pigs' feet, ₩ lb . 8 @ 10
Salt, ₩ lb . . 9 @ 9	Sausage, ₩ lb . . 12 @ 15
Beef, corned, ₩ lb 6 @ 9	Bologna, ₩ lb 10 @ 12
Smoked, ₩ lb . 14 @ 17	Tripe, ₩ lb . . . @ 12
Tongues, ₩ lb . 11 @ 12	

Poultry and Game.

Chickens, ₩ lb . 15 @ 20	Pigs, sck'g, ea 1 50 @ 3 00
Ducks, ch'ce, ₩ lb 20 @ 25	quarter, ₩ lb . 10 @ 15
Black, ₩ pr . 75 @ 1 00	Rabbits, ea . . 10 @ 15
Squirrels, ea . . . @ 10	Squirrels, ea . . . @ 10
Fowls, ₩ lb . . 12 @ 17	Turkeys,—
Geese, ₩ lb . . 10 @ 15	choice, ₩ lb . 20 @ 25
Green, ₩ lb . . @ 20	ordinary, ₩ lb . @ 15
Pigeons, ₩ doz 2 00 @ 2 50	Venison—legs, lb 12 @ 20
squabs, ₩ pr . 50 @ 60	saddles . . . 12 @ 15
Quails, doz . . 1 50 @ 2 00	Widgeon, pr . . 75 @ 1 00
Partridges, pr . 75 @ 1 00	

Fish--Fresh.

Alewives, doz . . @ 25	Halibut, ₩ lb . . @ 15
Bass, ₩ lb . . 12 @ 17	chicken, ₩ lb . . @ 20
Bluefish ₩ lb . . @ 12	Perch, ₩ doz . . @ .
Cod, ₩ lb . . . @ 6	white, ₩ lb . . @ 10
Flounders, ea . . @ 5	Pickerel, ₩ lb . 10 @ 12
tongues, ₩ lb . . @ 12	Redfish, ₩ lb . . @ 12
chucks, ₩ lb . . @ 10	Salmon, ₩ lb . . 25 @ 30
Shad, ea . . . . @ 50	Shad, ea . . . . @ 50
Eels, ₩ lb . . 10 @ 12	Smelts, ₩ lb . . 8 @ 17
Flounders, ea . . @ 5	Whitefish, ₩ lb . . @ 17
Haddock, ₩ lb . . @ 5	

Fish--Dry, Smoked, Shell, &c.

Cod, dry, ₩ lb . . 7 @ 9	Lobster, ₩ lb . . @ 8
Clams, ₩ gall . . @ 75	Oysters—Com. shore,
Halibut, smkd, ₩ lb . 12	₩ gall . . 1 00 @ 1 25
Fins

New England Farmer.

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General Intelligence.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

A lock of President Washington's hair has just been presented to Lodge No. 4, F. and A. M. of Richmond—the lodge in which the great Virginian was initiated, passed and raised. Only one other lock of his hair is known to exist—this, it is said, is owned and kept in a golden urn by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Mr. Spurgeon, yielding to the earnest solicitations of the majority of his flock, has consented to take a vacation of three months, to be passed at Mentone, France. The "Spurgeon Bazaar" has closed with a receipt of about $32,000. The movement, while professedly started to compliment Mr. Spurgeon, has resulted in the securing of a permanent source of comfort and happiness to several aged and deserving people. Mr. Spurgeon declines to accept a penny and the funds will be invested for the benefit of those needing help.

C. W. Stevens, a graduate of the Scientific Department in 1877, and a member of the Thayer School of Civil Engineering, class of 1879, at Dartmouth, has received the appointment as Assistant Observer in the National Observatory at Cordoba, Argentine Republic, South America, with a salary of $1200 a year. He sails March 12.

Charles Demond has resigned the treasurership of the National Council of the Congregational Churches of the United States, and Rev. H. M. Dexter has been appointed by the provisional committee to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the council.

Mr. Solomon H. Howe, of Bolton, whose attack by paralysis at the meeting of the N. E. Ag'l Society was noticed in our last, died the following day, Wednesday, 5th. He made a competency in the dry goods trade, in this city, and has since resided on his farm at Bolton, and has been for many years an active member of the N. E. Agricultural Society.

Wade Hampton has not only had to give up his intended trip to Florida, but has taken to his bed again. He will probably have to undergo another amputation of his leg, and is despondent about pulling through.

Wm. A. Stedman, of Newfane, Vt., died on the 18th ult., at the age of 65. He was a prominent citizen, and for several years one of the officers of the Windham County Savings Bank, and had held prominent places of honor in his native town.

The marriage of the Duke of Connaught is definitely fixed for the thirteenth of March. A fancy ball on a magnificent scale is to be given in the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, on that occasion.

Miss Jackson, daughter of the Alexandria hotel keeper who killed Ellsworth, was kept in a Treasury Department place at Washington by Mosby until he left for Hong Kong. Since his departure it is said that Miss Jackson has lost her place.

The widow of Senator Wade has been gradually failing in health since the death of her husband, and is now very ill. She is more than 70 years old.

Hon. Joseph Casey, formerly Chief Justice of the Court of Claims, died at Washington Monday morning, aged 64.

Thomas Lord, the New York millionaire, whose marriage with Mrs. Hicks in December, 1877, attracted much attention, died on Saturday morning in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

Mrs. L. Folger Fowler, wife of Dr. Fowler, the phrenologist of New York died in London recently. She graduated in medicine at Rochester, N. Y., and is stated to have been the first female professor of obstetrics in America. She relinquished a large medical practice in this city in 1860, to engage in lecturing in England. She was a native of Nantucket, Mass., and was a lineal descendant, on her father's side, of Benjamin Franklin's mother. Mrs. Fowler was a diligent student, and greatly interested in scientific researches.

FASHIONABLE FOOLISHNESS.

There is no modern fashionable notion quite so absurd as the generally received idea that to be beautiful and attractive a woman must possess a wan, *spiritueIle* face and a figure of sylph-like proportions—a fragility in nine cases out of ten the result of disease. By many fashionable belles it is considered a special compliment to be spoken of as frail and delicate. They forget that the naturally delicate face and *petite* figure are very different from the pale and disease-stricken faces that meet us in the city thoroughfares, look out from the luxuriant carriages of wealth, and glide languidly through our crowded drawing-rooms. If disease were unfashionable, as it ought to be, not a lady in the land but would take every possible precaution to secure the fresh, blooming face and well-rounded figure that only health can give. Ladies should remember that much as gentlemen may profess to admire the face and form paled and emaciated by disease, when they choose a wife they prefer a blooming, healthful, buoyant-spirited woman. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the acknowledged standard remedy for female diseases and weaknesses. It has the two-fold advantage of curing the local disease and imparting a vigorous tone to the whole system. It is sold by druggists.

CONSUMPTION CURED.—An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure for consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French, or English. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherar, 149 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

NEVER RETURN.—It is said that one out of every four real invalids who go to Denver, Col., to recover health never returns to the East or South except as a corpse. The undertakers, next to the hotel keepers, have the most profitable business. This excessive mortality may be prevented and patients served and cured under the care of friends and loved ones at home, if they will but use Hop Bitters in time. This we know. See other column.

THE HOLLY SAW.—The most practical and beautiful scroll saw that has ever been invented is advertised in this issue. It is all that is claimed for it in every way. It is a wonderful piece of machinery and doubly so at the price asked. It is really a *fact* that it will pay for itself in two days. No parent will regret its purchase.

A FAVORABLE NOTORIETY.—The good reputation of "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" for the relief of Coughs, Colds, and Throat Diseases, has given them a favorable notoriety. 25c. a box.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

A large wooden block on Main St., Peabody, owned by Mrs. Eben Sutton, and occupied in the upper stories by Edward Francis as a boarding-house, and on the lower floor by Fernald & Sawyer, dry goods dealers, and Charles E. Teague, boot and shoe dealer, was badly damaged by fire on the 6th. The losses amount to from $10,000 to $15,000—partly insured.

At Lebanon, N. H., Monday night, there was a destructive fire. G. W. Worthen's three-story building, was totally destroyed. Loss, $12,000; partially insured. A. L. Worthen's stock of dry goods and clothing, in same, loss $8000; not fully insured. Odd Fellows' hall, in same, furniture and fixtures, loss $1500; insurance $1150. Armory of Shaw Rifles, loss $700; no insurance. Three frame buildings belonging to P. E. Davis were also totally destroyed. Loss, $3200; insurance, $800. The two-story building of Durant & Perkins is also a total wreck. Loss on building and stock of paints, oils, &c., $8000; insurance, $6000. H. P. Kendricks's stock of drugs and medicines, in same, loss $3500; insured partially.

A fire at St. Paul, Minn., on the 4th, destroyed several stores, causing a loss of $56,500—partly insured.

At Morristown, Pa., the Pennsylvania tack works were partially burned on Saturday night by an incendiary fire. The stock and building were insured for $60,000.

CHEW JACKSON'S BEST Sweet Navy Tobacco.

The World Abroad.

CABLE DISPATCHES.

Great Britain.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The distress among the laboring population of Glasgow is decreasing and the number on the roll of unemployed gradually diminishing. The roll still holds about 10,000, which, including dependents, aggregates 30,000 still supported by charity.

A slaughter of the cattle brought by the steamer Ontario at the abattoir in Liverpool, under the supervision of eminent veterinary authority, especially familiar with pleuro pneumonia, disclosed the fact that several other cattle, besides those previously detected, had suffered from pleuro pneumonia, and that disease was of a very pronounced contagious type. The Examiner has returned to London to report to the Veterinary Department of the Privy Council.

The master cotton spinners of Bolton and Bolton district have resolved to reduce the wages of operatives 10 per cent.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 5.—The Privy Council have ordered the withdrawal of the permission to land cattle at the Liverpool docks after March 1, unless provision is made for their slaughter on the quays.

It is reported that Lord Dufferin has been appointed British Ambassador to Russia in place of Lord Loftus, recalled.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—Lord Augustus Loftus, late Minister to Russia, has been appointed Governor General of New South Wales.

Pleuro pneumonia has appeared among the cattle at Bootle, near Liverpool.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 6.—Three thousand coal heavers, who were not affected by the reduction of wages, stopped work to-day in support of dock laborers. Several thousand strikers paraded the principal streets. The sailing of steamships has not been delayed.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—It is estimated that from 30,000 to 35,000 men are now a strike at Liverpool. The demeanor of the crowd yesterday was most threatening in consequence of the sailors joining the strikers. The laborers employed in the provision trade have also struck. At Waterloo dock the mob broke down a staging and did much damage. After they were driven off by the police they attempted to storm the gates. At Prince's dock the mob boarded the barque Cora, from Wilmington, North Carolina, unloading a cargo of resin, extinguished the fires in the donkey engines and cut the hoisting gear. This mob numbered about 3000. Smaller mobs terrorized the laborers at Queen's, Nelson's and Brambymoor docks. The police were reinforced last night, especially near the Sailors' Home.

A Committee of the Cattle Trade Association at Liverpool, in order to avoid interruption to the trade, have offered to erect the necessary lairage (pasturage) and abattoirs to comply with the requirements of the Privy Council. It is believed, however, that in consequence of the growing importance of the trade to Liverpool, either the corporation or dock board will undertake the work. All cattle from America, since the steamer Ontario's cargo, have been free from disease. The severity of the weather, it is believed, caused the outbreak in that instance. The British Government is not inclined to interfere with the importation of cattle from America, provided there is adequate inspection before shipment and provision for the required lairage at Liverpool to put them in position to meet such cases as the Ontario's. It is not believed that slaughter on the quays will be enforced where no disease exists. Gentlemen in the trade say that under these conditions American shippers need not fear interference.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—In regard to the importation of cattle from America no action of the Privy Council has been made known since the notice read in the Liverpool Town Council on Feb. 5, that cattle cannot be landed at Liverpool docks after March 1 unless provision is made for slaughter on the quay.

The police suppressed an attempted riot at Liverpool Saturday by promptly attacking a band of 200 men who were marching toward Queen's dock. Forty-five hundred more laborers joined the strike in Liverpool and Birkenhead on Saturday, many through fear, and 1500 are expected to join to-day. The sailors on a strike have been joined by foreign sailors and firemen on ocean steamers. The Mayor, in a proclamation, calls on all well disposed inhabitants to assist in the maintenance of the peace.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The *Standard's* Liverpool dispatch estimates the number of sailors on a strike there at from 7000 to 15,000. The authorities are arranging for a speedy landing, if necessary, of 250 sailors and marines from a man-of-war.

LONDON, Feb. 10. Pleuro-pneumonia has broken out among the cattle at Wiganthorpe near Malton, county of York.

The government has not issued orders forbidding cattle being landed from the United States after the 28th instant. It is intimated that unless further arrivals prove existence of the disease there is no intention of taking steps toward interference with the cattle trade. The Mersey Dock Board have begun to erect a lairage.

The *Times* Liverpool dispatch says the number of strikers of all classes here is now estimated from 50,000 to 60,000. The sending of a deputation of laborers to the steamship owners is regarded as a hopeful sign. The sailors express a willingness to send a deputation with a views to adjustment. It is rumored that Dundee employers are arranging for a general lockout if the present strike of mill workers continues.

France.

PARIS, Feb. 4.—The Cabinet has been constituted, and the following are the changes: M. Waddington, President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs; Senator Le Royer, Minister of Justice; M. De Marcere, Minister of the Interior and Minister of Public Worship ad interim; Jules Ferry, Minister of Public Instruction and Fine Arts; M. Lepere, Minister of Marine.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—Paris specials say that Admiral Pothuan has been appointed Ambassador at London and Colonel Andiau Ambassador at Vienna.

VERSAILLES, Feb. 6.—In his inaugural address to the Chamber of Deputies to-day, Gambetta eulogized the great citizen whom he had succeeded in the Presidential chair, and whose footsteps he was to follow. He promised impartiality in the discharge of his duties, a jealous regard for the freedom of debate, and that he would protect the minority, but exact respect for the Constitution. He said that the republic has issued victorious from party conflicts, and must now enter an organic and creative period. The Chamber, he said, must devote itself to scholastic, military, financial and commercial reforms.

President Grevy's inaugural message was read in the Chamber of Deputies. A broad, liberal republican policy is promised,—the national will, as indicated through its representatives in the assembly, to be implicitly respected and obeyed by the government.

PARIS, Feb. 6.—President's Grevy's message caused great satisfaction to the public and Chambers. While it was being read the Republicans applauded for several minutes the promise of a constitutional attitude.

PARIS, Feb. 9.—The Chambers, it is rumored, after a few more sittings, will adjourn until March 1, when they will discuss urgent bills and then adjourn until May.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The appointment of Gen. Chanzy as French Minister to Russia appears to be decided upon.

BORDEAUX, Feb. 10.—M. Delbecque, Director of the Mint, has been sentenced to six years' imprisonment and 125,000 francs fine for embezzling 1,400,000 francs in bullion lodged in the mint by the Rothschilds. Delbeque substituted galvanized copper bars for the bullion embezzled.

Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 5.—Numerous municipal, provincial and other sanitary committees are being organized to promote cleanliness among the poorer classes, especially in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—The Roumanian Government has given eight days' notice at St. Petersburg of the prohibition of the import of certain articles from Russia or Bulgaria, and of sanitary supervision over persons crossing the frontier.

An official dispatch dated Astrachan, Feb. 8, reports there are no cases of the plague at Wetlianka. A doubtful case has appeared at Niclajeholski, in the Government of Saratoff, 6000 versts from Astrachan. Several new and fatal cases are reported at Selitrero. General Loris Melikoff arrived at Tzaritzin this morning. Troops for the sanitary cordon, convoys, stores, provisions &c., are constantly arriving at Tzaritzin.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—Berlin and Russia press advices from the interior of Russia state that general unhealthiness and predisposition to an epidemic exist.

The *Gorge Vremia* of St. Petersburg says that reports from the Government of Saratoff complain of the foul condition of the town of Kamishin. Typhus fever and small pox are increasing alarmly in the Government of Tver; 100 cases of small pox occurred in one village, of which eighteen proved fatal. The Siberian plague has appeared in another village.

It is officially announced that the Greek Government has received a report from the Consul at Kavala, on the Aegean Sea, confirming the rumors of an outbreak of the plague there.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 10.—The *Golos* publishes sensational letters, stating that hundreds of bodies of those who died from the plague in Astrachan in December are still unburied, and corpses are strewn over eight versts of the Enostajewsker district.

Germany.

LONDON, Feb. 8.—A Berlin dispatch says: It is reported that the German Minister to Copenhagen will be recalled. The people of North Schleswig propose to issue a protest against the abrogation of the fifth article of the treaty of Prague. Should Germany prohibit such action the North Schleswig Deputies will formally protest in the Reichstag.

BERLIN, Feb. 9.—The Lower House of the Prussian Diet has read the second time the budget for 1879, which now shows the revenue and expenditure balanced, each being estimated at 711,500,750 marks.

The Federal Council has adopted the Parliamentary Discipline bill as modified by the committees.

The Berlin *Gazette* announces that a treaty of commerce between Germany and Samoa was signed January 24.

ROME, Feb. 9.—The statement relative to an agreement for the reorganization of the German dioceses is untrue. So far the various suggestions made by both Germany and the Vatican for settling the position of the compromised bishops have proved resultless.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The *Post's* Berlin dispatch says the German Government does not apprehend any display of irritation from Denmark in regard to the treaty with Austria, but expects rather a proposal for an amicable settlement of the Schleswig question.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—The *Times'* Berlin dispatch says it is reported that Bismarck spoke forcibly but unavailingly in the Federal Council for the retention of the clauses of the Parliamentary Discipline bill which was stricken out by the committee. It is also rumored that the bill passed by one vote. The Representatives of Saxony, Baden, Hesse and Prussia voted for it.

General Items.

Count Zichy, Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople, telegraphs that typhus fever and not the plague is prevalent near Xanthi, in Thessaly.

Greece has established a vigorous quarantine, both land and sea, against the plague.

ROME, Feb. 5.—The *Voce Della Verita* says that taking into account the great distress prevailing, greater in fact than is generally known, the Catholics of Rome have contributed largely to relieve the dire and noble poverty in which the head of the Church is constrained to live.

Captain General Campos has sailed for Spain.

A dispatch from Brussels says that Henry M. Stanley is to lead the Belgian exploring expedition to Africa.

England and Portugal have agreed to joint operations against the slave trade between Mozambique and Madagascar.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—The *Standard's* Copenhagen dispatch says the Danish Ministers at Berlin and Vienna will probably be recalled.

The Afghanistan War.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—The Viceroy of India telegraphs that Yakoob Khan has ceased shelling the Kizilbash portion of Cabul, because of the threats of a general uprising.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—A cable special dated Tashkend, 7th, says Shere Ali is sick at Mazar-Ir-Sharuff and has abandoned the journey to Tashkend, sending ambassadors instead. Russian General Rasgonoff, who is quitting Afghanistan with the nephews of Shere Ali, two ambassadors and the Vizier, will reach Tashkend by the 20th. A letter from Rasgonoff to Gen. Kauffman says Yakoob Khan continues to send daily reports to the Ameer regarding the state of affairs in Cabul, and that the English, although distributing gold lavishly, are advancing with distrust because of the conduct of the mountaineers. The hill tribes readily take the money offered them by the invaders, but lose no opportunity of pillaging British convoys.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The *Times'* dispatch from Hazapir says that Wali Mahomed's presence at Jellalabad is necessary, because of the negotiations proceeding between the Government and Yakoob Khan relative to resist until the Ameer is dead.

At Candahar five fanatics dashed into the British camp on Thursday and wounded seven men. Three soldiers were also accidentally shot, one fatally, during the disturbance. The fanatics were killed.

The Eastern Question.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—A Vienna dispatch says it is reported that Germany, in consequence of Austria's consent to the recent treaty concerning North Schleswig, has undertaken not to interfere with an Austrian advance upon Salonica.

The *Times'* Vienna dispatch says that, as regards the merits of dispute concerning Arab Tobia, all the neutral powers may be said to favor Roumania, but the case will become complicated by Roumania's hasty action.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 8.—Caratheodori and Ali Pasha and Prince Labanoff, the Russian Ambassador, this evening signed a definitive treaty of peace. The Russians will commence the evacuation of Turkish territory to-morrow, and complete it in thirty-five days.

England has concluded the convention with Turkey, purchasing the State domains in Cyprus, with the exception of the Sultan's private estates.

Consul Heap has represented to the Porte the inconvenience of replacing the Ottoman Minister at Washington by a charge d'affairs.

Podgoritza was surrendered yesterday to the Montenegrins, who have evacuated Turkish localities.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 9.—The definitive treaty between Russia and Turkey provides that all the San Stefano stipulations, which were modified by the treaty of Berlin, shall remain as modified, with the exception of the war indemnity and the compensation to the Russian residents of Turkey, who suffered through the war, is left for future agreement. All prosecutions for aiding either side during the war are abandoned, and persons implicated in the Roumelian disturbance pardoned. The protocol declares that the recognition in the present treaty of the Treaty of Berlin changes neither its character nor range. As Servia, Montenegro and Roumania are independent, Russia leaves them free to come to an understanding for themselves with the Porte relative their claims for war indemnity.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The *Times'* Paris dispatch reports that the English and French Governments strongly support the scheme for the examination of Turkish finances by the international commission, which shall superintend the collection of the revenue.

The *Times'* Constantinople special states that it is announced from Adrianople that the evacuation by the Russians has already commenced.

Africa.

CAPETOWN, Jan. 23—Bartle Frere, Governor of Cape Colony, proclaims that the British are not quarreling with the Zulu nation but with Cetewaya. On the 12th of January a column under Colonel Glyn had an engagement. The British loss was trifling. The Zulus offer slight resistance, withdrawing into the interior as troops advanced. Skirmishing affairs are reported from different point.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 21, via St. Vincent, Feb. 10. On the 21st inst. a British column, consisting of a portion of the Twenty-fourth Regiment, a battery of artillery and 600 native auxiliaries, was utterly annihilated near the Tugela river by 10,000 Zulus, who captured a valuable convoy of 102 wagons, 1000 oxen, 2 cannon, 400 shot and shell, 1000 rifles, 250,000 rounds of ammunition, 60,000 pounds weight of provisions and the colors of the Twenty-fourth Regiment. It is estimated that 5000 Zulus were killed and wounded in the fight.

LONDON, Feb. 10. Among the killed on the British side are two majors, four captains, twelve lieutenants, and the quartermaster of the Twenty-fourth Regiment, two captains of the Royal Artillery, a colonel, captain, four lieutenants and a surgeon-major of engineers, besides twenty-one other British officers commanding the native corps. Seven attacks subsequently made by the Zulus have been repulsed, and the colony is now somewhat recovering from the utter consternation which at first prevailed. Natal, however, is in great danger, and disturbances are feared in Pongoland.

Lord Chelmsford, commander of the expedition, has been forced to retire in consequence of the defeat. It is estimated that 500 soldiers were killed besides the officers enumerated above.

Governor Bartle Frere has sent an appeal to England and the Mauritius for reinforcements. The mail steamer for England was dispatched one day earlier than usual with a request for six regiments of infantry and a brigade of cavalry. The men of war Active and Tenedos have been ashore. The Tenedos was seriously injured and was obliged to go into dock at Simon's Bay.

The *Standard's* dispatch from Cape Town says the British force was compelled to recross the borders. The force which was annihilated was attacked while guarding the camp of the headquarters column at Insandusana, during the absence of Lord Chelmsford with a strong force reconnoitering.

LONDON, Feb. 11. Details of the disaster to the British forces show that the guns were spiked before they were captured.

The *Times* says, editorially, that the government is bound to send ample reinforcements without an hour's delay and spare no expense or effort.

Latest Dispatches.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, Feb. 12.—The official report of Lord Chelmsford, the commander of the British expedition against the Zulus, confirms the news of the disaster of the 22d ultimo. The troops made a gallant resistance, but were unable to withstand the fierce onslaught of the enemy's forces, which greatly outnumbered those of the invaders. The total British loss is placed at six hundred, while that of the Kaffirs is reported at between three and four thousand. Reinforcements to the number of 7000 men are to be despatched to the colony at once.

The Prussian government has decided to declare the Guelph fund forfeited.

FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—A fire at Drytown, Amador county, to-night, destroyed Masonic Hall and a large number of stores and dwellings. Loss $30,000.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 8.—It is stated that the differences between the Bonanza and the Sutro Tunnel parties has been settled and contracts are about to be signed by the different mining companies on the Comstock lead here. As soon as the drain is finished in the Ophir, Savage, Hale & Norcross, Cholar & Gould & Curry mines, which could not be drained for the past four years, will be dry in less than four weeks.

The Bank of California has sold the Government 200,000 ounces of silver, deliverable in San Francisco, at 109¼.

SALT LAKE, Utah, Feb. 3.—At a meeting of the Anti-Polygamy Society to-day the following memorial to Congress was adopted:

While Delegate Cannon and representatives of the Mormon Church are petitioning for amnesty and promising obedience for their people to the anti-polygamy law, the expressions and actions of Mormons in Utah give no evidence that their promise will be fulfilled. Apostle John Taylor, President of the Mormon Church, has declared that revelations enjoin polygamy religion, and that neither Congress nor the Supreme Court has a right to interfere; that the Supreme Court decision would have no effect except to unite, confirm and strengthen Mormons in their faith. This same Taylor, when in France in 1853, be having then five wives, denied the existence of polygamy among Mormons, and had the denial published in pamphlet form in French, and circulated.

It is a matter of common notoriety that Mormons are contracting unlawful marriages the same as ever; that John W. Young has married a fifth wife, James Welch a second wife, and John White a third wife since the decision was made. The *Deseret News*, the Mormon church organ, declared that the decision of the Supreme Court was rendered under popular pressure by feeble-witted and cloudy-minded judges, and in the meeting-houses violent diatribes were uttered against the judges and judgment of the court. Therefore, we respectfully ask Congress, during the present session, to amend the act of 1862 that it may become operative, by making a general repetition of conjugal relation proof of marriage, and living together in polygamy to constitute the offence. Unless the prosecuting officer of the Government is enabled by some such legislation to prosecute and punish offenders, no regard will be paid to the Statute.

Miscellaneous Items.

☞ Southern farmers are busy preparing for next season's crops.

☞ Avery D. Hatch of Addison, Vt., has recently lost an $8000 stallion, which was considered the best horse in the State.

☞ At Wilton, N. H., a saw mill belonging to Luther Hayes was burned Monday afternoon. Loss $2000; no insurance.

☞ Joseph Passano, a Frenchman, died at Fall River of hydrophobia on Friday morning, 7th. He was bitten by his own dog last September, when the wounds were cauterized.

☞ At Greenfield, Mass., Dr. C. C. Haskell's house and contents, on Davis street, were destroyed by fire Sunday morning. Loss $5000; insurance $3000.

☞ Joseph, son of George Marshall of West Gloucester, while coasting on Saturday, was thrown from his sled, receiving internal injuries, of which he died the 4th.

☞ At Lewiston, Me., Saturday in the case of Rev. Charles H. Webber of Saco, indicted for adultery, his bail was defaulted. It was suggested that he had left the State.

☞ A powder can exploded in the house of a miner, near Paducah, Ky., blowing the house to pieces, killing the miner and his wife and child.

☞ The house and its contents, and barn containing hay, a cow, horse, farming implements, &c., of Mr. Matthew Trickey in Belmont were destroyed by fire on the 4th. Loss about $3000.

☞ George F. Simmons of Troy, N. Y., crazed by the elopement of his wife, poisoned his three children and cut his own throat Monday morning. The lives of the children will probably be saved.

☞ The two-story frame dwelling of Elijah E. Williams, Raynham, Mass., was burned Monday morning. Loss on building $2000; insured for $800. The furniture was not insured and is nearly a total loss.

☞ The schooner Ella F. Long, from Boston to Patuxent River, put in at Norfolk, Va., Feb. 8, on account of the sickness of Captain Solomon Barnard of Wellfleet, Mass., who died soon after getting in.

☞ Wm. Talbot, about 50 years of age, died at Fall River on Saturday from hydrophobia, the result of a bite of a mad dog received last August. This is the second death from hydrophobia last week.

☞ A two-story dwelling house belonging to Nelson Platt, North Attleborough, Mass., was burned on Sunday night. Furniture partially removed. Insured $2000. House about the same as a total loss. Insured.

☞ A fire at Dexter, N. Y., Monday destroyed Messrs. Wood's building and store, Winn's block and Smith's block. There were many occupants, including the post-office and telegraph office. Loss, $8000; partly insured.

☞ A Mr. Green of West Medway was instantly killed Feb. 7 by a falling tree striking him on the head. He was over 60 years old and deaf. On being warned by the choppers to look out, he ran directly under the tree.

☞ The largest shipment of railroad ties and bark from the Quebec Central and International railroads ever made over the Passumpsic Railroad is being made this winter. The ties are consigned mostly to roads in New England.

☞ The Governor of Louisiana has signed the bill preventing cruelty to animals. Under this law the authorities will probably be able to prevent the grand national dog fights to take place in New Orleans the last week in February.

☞ At Moorhead's cattle ranche on the Niobrara river, Nebraska, Jan. 27, Frank Moorhead and Mr. Ashbaugh, well known cattle men, and two herders were killed by Indians, supposed to be part of Little Wolf's band. Eighty head of horses were run off and a number of cattle killed.

☞ Salome P. Sanborn of Hill, N. H., who a year ago experienced terrible suffering by being accidentally shut into a cold closet nearly a whole day, has died from the effect of her misfortune at that time. She was the widow of the late George A Sanborn of Gilmanton.

☞ Lewis A. Perkins, of the firm of Perkins & Searle, proprietors of the Boston branch grocery at Pittsfield, while hunting on the 7th, was accidentally shot by his companion, C. A. Rockwell, one shot destroying the left eye and another making a bad wound on the forehead. His injuries are not fatal.

☞ Capt. Paul Boyton, who entered the Alleghany river at Oil City, Pa., on Thursday morning, arrived at Pittsburg at 3.30 o'clock Sunday afternoon. He was greeted by nearly 50,000 people. The weather was bitter cold with occasional snow storms and considerable floating ice in the stream.

☞ A dispatch from Lebanon, Ky., on the 8th inst., says that the state of affairs in Green county growing out of the collection of the Cumberland & Ohio Railroad tax, is growing worse. The tax collector's barn has been burned and his life threatened, and a reign of terror is inaugurated. The Governor will be called upon for assistance.

☞ In crossing Main street at Biddeford, Me., Friday afternoon, 7th, John Wilds was struck by a runaway horse and probably fatally injured. One of the shafts of the sleigh entered his cheek, passing into his throat, downward and backward about six inches, and was broken off by the force of the blow. Mr. Wild's condition is very critical.

☞ Sheriff G. A. Williams of Kittaning county, Pa., convicted at the December term for perjury in office and of using money for election purposes, was sentenced Monday to twenty-five months in the penitentiary and a fine of $500. Williams was elected by the Republicans and has been in office since January, 1877.

☞ Mr. Isaac Sargent of Boothbay, Me., was drowned last Saturday while returning from his lobster pots. A squall struck the boat and she capsized and sunk. Capt. Albert Murray was in the boat, but clung to an oar, and after being in the water nearly an hour was rescued. The body of Sargent has not been found.

☞ An old colored woman, who for a good many years has lived alone at Portsmouth, N. H., and been the recipient of aid from the charitable, was found dead in her house Saturday afternoon, and a search revealed hid away a lot of provisions and fuel, a savings bank book, deeds, gold and silver coin and scrip amounting to a considerable sum, valuable underclothing, table linen, gold watches, rare crockery, &c., &c.

☞ John Thomas, one of the Chinamen employed in Sampson's shoe shop at North Adams, died on Monday, 3d, aged 25. His Chinese name was Ah Nam, and he came to San Francisco about six years ago. He was a devoted member of the Baptist Church, and was a good scholar in all the common English branches, speaking English with unusual correctness and fluency. He was entirely supporting an aged mother in China, though intending to spend his own life in this country. He was much liked and had many friends.

☞ As the men who were at work framing the bridge that is to cross West river to the site of the proposed railroad depot at Jericho, Vt., were returning home from their work Wednesday night, 5th, a stone which was thrown from a blast made at the railroad rockcut on the other side of the river, flew the distance of fifty rods and hit Charles Dean on the head, instantly killing him and taking off the left side of his head. Mr. Dean was 45 years of age and leaves a wife and one married daughter.

☞ In the United States district court, at Portland, Me., on Saturday, Judge Fox came in to sentence John A. Winship, a lawyer of Portland, and Geo. W. Swett, postmaster of Windham, for conspiracy to defraud creditors in bankruptcy proceedings. Mr. Winship, before sentence, made a disclaimer of guilt, and appealed earnestly for Swett, who is a one-legged soldier, and his aged mother, his wife and children, who will be left destitute. He made no appeal for himself. Judge Fox awarded to each prisoner a fine of $1000 and one year in the county jail.

☞ At Northampton, Mass., Feb. 7, James Hunter and E. Judson Hunter, father and son, were brought from Boston and tried for swindling Austin Waite, a Williamsburg farmer, last December. Both the Hunters visited Waite, selling mowing machine grinders and offered him the agency of the neighborhood, he to buy the machines of them, and at the end of the year pay for only what he sold. They produced paper purporting as above and he signed it. In a few days a lot of goods came and a man with the original paper, which proved to be an order for $197 worth of goods signed by Waite, who gave the man his note, which was immediately sold to the Holyoke Bank. Waite informed the Sheriff, and the man has since been carefully watched by Boston detectives. There is a gang of five under the firm name of Hunter, Son & Co., P. O. box 141, Boston. Their operations extend over all New England, and several farmers hereabouts already identify the men as having tried the same game upon them. The Hunters are held under $500 bonds to appear here Feb. 15. The case has been carefully worked up by Detective Smith of Boston. The Hunters claim that the transaction was legitimate, and are anxious for a speedy trial. They have sued Mr. Waite for defamation.

☞ The estimate for last year's crop of potatoes in Aroostook county, sold or to be sold, is one million bushels, and the average price 40 cents per bushel, giving a total of $400,000.

☞ Investigations show that three New England Postmasters have collected more money for second class matter than they have affixed canceled stamps, as is shown by their stubs. If they pay over the surplus which they have pocketed there will not probably be any prosecutions; but in future no such crookedness will be permitted.

☞ At Goliad, Texas, two men named Henderson and Lockhart quarelled and both drew revolvers. Lockhart caught Henderson's arm and fired six shots into him, killing him instantly. Henderson's brother rushed at Lockhart with a pistol. They closed in a struggle, and Henderson emptied six chambers of the revolver into Lockhart's body, causing instant death.

☞ The Comptroller of Currency reports that the total amount of bonds held by the national banks as security for circulating notes, on the 1st of February, was $348,939,200, of which $67,961,650 were 6 per cents., $184,856,300 were 5 per cents., $43,578,550 were 4½ per cents. and $52,542,700 were 4 per cdnts. The national bank circulation outstanding on the 1st instant, was $322,930,849.

☞ The Master in Chancery sold at Topeka, Kansas, on Tuesday, 4th, the Kansas City & Santa Fe Railroad, and the Missouri River, Fort Scott & Gulf Railroad, under decrees of foreclosure. The former was bid in for $120,000 by George H. Nettleton, and the latter for $1,930,000 by Wallace Pratt. Both purchases were for the bondholders of the respective roads.

Business Notices.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, *Station D., Bible House, New York City.* 1y7

BUTTER COLOR.

Having frequent calls for the genuine

BUTTER COLOR,

prepared by Wells & Richardson, which is largely used and recommended by leading dairymen, we have procured a supply, and will keep it on hand for the accommodation of our subscribers. It is put up in bottles, retailing at 25 cents and 50 cents, the smaller size being sufficient to color over 300 pounds of butter.

☞ *It cannot be sent by mail*, but will be forwarded by express, if desired. Send orders to

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Boston, Mass.
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Patent Hard Metal.

THE ABOVE IS THE RESULT OF many experiments to obtain a metal that could be used in the formation of plough mouldboards, landsides and points, that would present a hard, smooth surface, and answer all the purpose of steel, but costing much less. It is far superior to any of the **so-called "chilled"** plough metals, and we are so fully satisfied in regard to its great merits, that we shall have it used in the construction of some of our Lion 25 and 61 Ploughs. Also in the Conical Ploughs, and J. Nourse (new) I X L Swivel Ploughs.

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THE LATEST AND BEST.

It is an admitted fact that **LA DOW'S JOINTED PULVERIZING HARROW** is by far the best wheel harrow made, and the most useful tool ever put on the farm. Thousands were sold last season, and the demand this year will be immense. Order early if you want one. RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED. **Send for Descriptive Circular.**

EVERETT & SMALL,
43 South Market St., Boston, Mass.
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Poetry.

For the New England Farmer.

AFTER THE STORM.

BY ANNE G. HALE.

Over the nearer meadows, and up the distant steeps,
Fast—still faster—and faster—the darkening twilight creeps;
And not a living creature seen through all the lonely dale,
While in the shivering hemlocks I hear the south wind wail.
And wildly cries the river adown its rocky bed—
A cry that fills my spirit with a bitter, nameless dread.

But now, far-off in the valley, a glimpse of spectral white;—
It nears—still nears—comes closer, out of the murky night.
Is it a pale hand beckoning me, and wavering to and fro?
Heart, still thy frantic throbbing! I dare not, must not go;
And yet, mayhap, he beckons in dire extremity.
O God, look down! Have pity—avert this agony!

Hark! hark! A sound long listened for floats up the gloomy vale.
Now, river rushing fiercely, nor wind with saddest wail
Is heeded, while I mingle my voice in joyous swell,
"All's well! all's well!" repeating, with the chime of Brindle's bell.
The cows are hurrying homeward, I must haste to lower the bars;
That is Molly Jersey's lowing that my merry music mars.

The spectral hand has vanished—'twas but Brindle's face so white.
Strange such foolish fears possess me,—John will surely come to-night.
—How this lantern flares and flickers,—or are my eyes so dim?
There's heavy weather near us, and the moon looks pale and grim.
Soh, Molly! soh, my beauty! Come up—come up, Moll!
—Is that you, neighbor, skulking there behind the hemlock knoll?

Oh! that's not neighborly. Come forward! Why not? What's the news?
Did you hear the last arrivals—see any of the crews?
They say the Duck and the Dolly Ann came in with heavy fares.
They're lucky—don't you think so? My John, he went on shares.
"*What name?*" The pink stern Flora, (and John, he's skipper's mate)
The neatest craft, they tell me, and the staunchest in the State.

I think the Flora must be in, but John would have to stay
Till every man aboard her had his share or drew his pay.
And then he'd want to sell his fish; and then—he'd think of me,
And go a long way just to get my favorite spice and tea.
There's no woman in the county that has a better son.
I think he'll be here, surely, before this evening's done.

"*Let you finish up the milking?*" No, no; I thank you, sir!
Not Molly,—she is Johnnie's pet; no hands but mine touch her.
Soh, Brindie! Just a minute—there! But perhaps you'll kindly see
If the racks are filled, and the stanchion just as it ought to be.
Now, Molly!—She's so gentle—why! Why, what ails my pet to-night?
How she watches all your motions! And her brown eyes look so bright!

Bless me! I wonder—How you stir and shake the hay!—
So generous, too! Why, really, you've just my Johnnie's way.
—*It is, indeed!* O Johnnie! You're dear old mam my's son!
To think I didn't know you, so tall and stout you've grown!
There—there—just finish milking, my sight ain't very clear,
And I am all a-tremble—it's come so sudden, dear.

"That storm of Friday?" Yes, I mind me how the hemlocks groaned and tossed.
"*Wrecked?*" That stout, staunch Flora? And "*all her catch, too, lost?*
Not a single cent to bring me?" Well,—you've brought yourself, my boy;
And fourteen mothers mourn to-night, while I am filled with joy;
God comfort them and bless them. He can—*and only He*—
And make me truly grateful that you are spared to me.

A Selected Story.

From Belgravia.

A SHOCKING STORY.

BY WILKIE COLLINS.

[CONCLUDED.]

VIII.

After taking off my riding habit and cooling my hot face with eau-de-cologne and water, I went down to the room which we called the morning room. The piano there was my favorite instrument—and I had the idea of trying what music would do toward helping me to compose myself.

As I sat down before the piano, I heard the opening of the door of the breakfast room (separated from me by a curtained archway,) and the voice of Lady Catherine asking if Michael had returned to the stables. On the servant's reply in the affirmative, she desired that he might be sent to her immediately. No doubt, I ought either to have left the morning room, or to have let my aunt know of my presence there. I did neither the one nor the other. The inveterate dislike that she had taken to Michael had, to all appearances, subsided. She had once or twice actually taken opportunities of speaking to him kindly. I believed this was due to the caprice of the moment. The tone of her voice, too, suggested, on this occasion, that she had some spiteful object in view in sending for him. I deliberately waited to hear what passed between them.

Lady Catherine began.

"You were out riding to-day with Miss Mina?"

"Yes, my lady."

"Turn to the light. I wish to see people when I speak to them. You were observed by some friends of mine; your conduct excited remark. Do you know your business as a lady's groom?"

"I have had seven years' experience, my lady."

"Your business is to ride at a certain distance behind your mistress. Has your experience taught you that?"

"Yes, my lady."

"You were not riding behind Miss Mina—your horse was almost side by side with hers. Do you deny it?"

"No, my lady."

"You behaved with the greatest impropiety—you were seen talking to Miss Mina. Do you deny that?"

"No, my lady."

"Leave the room. No! come back. Have you any excuse to make?"

"None, my lady."

"Your insolence is intolerable! I shall speak to the General."

The sound of the closing door followed. I knew now what the smiles meant on the false faces of those women-friends of mine who had met me in the park. An ordinary man, in Michael's place, would have mentioned my own encouragement of him as a sufficient excuse. *He*, with the inbred delicacy and reticence of a gentleman, had taken all the blame on himself. Indignant and ashamed, I advanced to the breakfast room, bent on instantly justifying him. Drawing aside the curtain, I was startled by a sound as of a person sobbing. I cautiously looked in. Lady Catherine was prostrate on the sofa, hiding her face in her hands, in a passion of tears.

I withdrew completely bewildered. The extraordinary contradictions in my aunt's conduct were not at an end yet. Later in the day I went to my uncle, resolved to set Michael right in *his* estimation, and to leave him to speak to Lady Catherine. The General was in the lowest spirits; he shook his head ominously the moment I mentioned the groom's name. "I dare say the man meant no harm; but the thing has been observed. I can't have you made the subject of scandal, Mina. Lady Catherine makes a point of it—Michael must go."

"You don't mean to say that my aunt has insisted on your sending Michael away?"

Before he could answer me, a footman appeared with a message. "My lady wishes to see you, sir."

The General rose directly. My curiosity had got, by this time, beyond all restraint. I was actually indelicate enough to ask if I might go with him! He stared at me, as well he might. I persisted; I said I particularly wished to see Lady Catherine. My uncle's punctilious good breeding still resisted me. "Your aunt may wish to speak to me in private," he said. "Wait a moment, and I will send for you." My obstinacy was something superhuman; the bare idea that Michael might lose his place, through my fault, made me desperate, I suppose. "I won't trouble you to send for me," I persisted; "I will go with you at once as far as the door, and wait to hear if I may come in." The footman was still present, holding the door open; the General gave way. I kept so close behind him, that my aunt saw me as her husband entered the room. "Come in, Mina," she said, speaking and looking like the charming Lady Catherine of every-day life. Was this the woman whom I had seen crying her heart out on the sofa hardly an hour ago?

"On second thoughts," she continued, turning to the General, "I fear I may have been a little hasty. Pardon me for troubling you about it again—have you spoken to Michael yet? No? Then let us err on the side of kindness; let us look over his misconduct this time."

My uncle was evidently relieved. I seized the opportunity of making my confession, and taking the whole blame on myself. Lady Catherine stopped me with the perfect grace of which she was mistress.

"My good child, don't distress yourself! don't make mountains out of molehills!" She patted me on the cheek with two plump white fingers which felt deadly cold. "I was not always prudent, Mina, when I was your age. Besides, your curiosity was naturally excited about a servant who is—what shall I call him?—a foundling."

She paused and fixed her eyes on me attentively. "Is it a very romantic story?" she asked.

The General began to fidget in his chair. If I had kept my attention on him, I should have seen in his face a warning to me to be silent. But my interest at the moment was absorbed in my aunt. Encouraged by her amiable reception, I was not merely unsuspicious of the trap that she had set for me—I was actually foolish enough to think that I could improve Michael's position in her estimation (remember that I was in love with him!) by telling his story exactly as I have already told it in these pages. I spoke with fervor. Will you believe it? her humor positively changed again! She flew into a passion with me for the first time in her life.

"Lies!" she cried. "Impudent lies on the face of them—invented to appeal to your interest. How dare you repeat them? General! if Mina had not brought it on herself, this man's audacity would justify you in instantly dismissing him. Don't you agree with me?"

The General's sense of fair play roused him for once into openly opposing his wife. "You are completely mistaken," he said. "Mina and I have both had the shawl and the letter in our hands—and (what was there besides?)—ah, yes, the very linen the child was wrapped in."

What there was in those words to check Lady Catherine's anger in its full flow I was quite unable to understand. If the General had put a pistol to her head he could hardly have silenced her more effectually. She did not appear to be frightened, or ashamed of her outbreak of rage—she sat vacant and speechless, with her eyes on her husband and her hands crossed on her lap. After waiting a moment (wondering as I did what it meant) the General rose with his customary resignation and left her. I followed the General. He was unusually silent and thoughtful; not a word passed between us. I afterward discovered that he was beginning to fear, poor man, that his wife's mind must be affected in some way, and was meditating a consultation with the physician who helped us in cases of need.

As for myself, I was either too stupid or too innocent to feel any forewarnings of the truth, so far. Before the day was over the first vague suspicions began to find their way into my mind.

The events which I have been relating happened (it may be necessary to remind you) in the first part of the day. After luncheon, while I was alone in the conservatory, my maid came to me from Michael, asking if I had any commands for him in the afternoon. I thought this rather odd; but it occurred to me that he might want some hours to himself. I made the inquiry. To my astonishment, the maid announced that Lady Catherine had employed Michael to go on an errand for her. The nature of the errand was to take a letter to her bookseller, and to bring back the books which she had ordered. With three idle footmen in the house, whose business it was to perform such service as this, why had she taken the groom away from his work? The question obtained such complete possession of my mind—so worried me, in the ordinary phrase—that I actually summoned courage enough to go to my aunt, and ask if she saw any objection to sending one of the three indoor servants for her books in Michael's place.

She received me with a strange, hard stare, and answered with obstinate self-possession, "I wish Michael to go." No explanations followed. If I had planned to take a drive in my pony carriage, Michael could easily deliver her letter later in the day. With reason or without it, agreeable to me or not agreeable to me, she wished the groom to go.

As she repeated those words I felt my first suspicion of something wrong. I begged her pardon for interfering, and replied that I had not planned to drive out that day. She made no further remark. I left the room, determining to watch her. There is no defence for my conduct; it was mean and unbecoming, no doubt. I was drawn on, by some force in me which I could not even attempt to resist. Indeed, indeed I am not a mean woman by nature!

At first I thought of speaking to Michael, not with any special motive or suspicion, but simply because I felt drawn toward him as the guide and helper in whom my heart trusted at this crisis in my life. A little consideration, however, suggested to me that I might be seen speaking to him, and might so do him an injury. While I was still hesitating, the thought came to me that Lady Catherine's motive for sending him to the bookseller's was to get him out of her way. Out of her way in the house. No; his place was not in the house. Out of her way in the stables? The next instant the idea flashed across my mind of watching the stable doors.

The best bedrooms, my room included, were all in front of the house. I went up to my maid's room, which looked on the courtyard; ready with my excuse, if she happened to be there. She was not there. I placed myself at the window, in full view of the stables opposite.

An interval elapsed—long or short, I cannot say which; I was too much excited to look at my watch. All I know is that I discovered her! She crossed the yard, after waiting to make sure that no one was there to see her; and she entered the stables by the door that led to that part of the building occupied by Michael and by the two horses of which he had the special charge. This time I looked at my watch. Forty minutes passed before I saw her again. And then, instead of appearing at the door, she showed herself at the window of Michael's room, throwing it wide open. I concealed myself behind the window curtain, just in time to escape discovery, as she looked up at the house. She next appeared in the yard, hurrying back. I waited a while, trying to compose myself in case I met any one on the stairs. There was little danger of a meeting at that hour. The General was at his club; the servants were at their tea. I reached my own room without being seen by any one, and locked myself in.

What had she been doing for forty minutes in Michael's room? And why had she opened the window?

I spare you my reflections on these perplexing questions. Let me only say that, even yet, I was not experienced enough to guess at the truth. A convenient headache saved me from the ordeal of meeting Lady Catherine at the dinner table. I passed a restless and miserable night; conscious that I had found my way blindly, as it were, to some terrible secret which might have its influence on my whole future life, and not knowing what to think or what to do next. Even then I shrank instinctively from speaking to my uncle. This was not wonderful. But I felt afraid to speak to Michael—and that perplexed and alarmed me. Consideration was certainly not the motive that kept me silent, after what I had seen.

The next morning my pale face abundantly justified the assertion that I was still ill. My aunt, always doing her maternal duty toward me, came herself to inquire after my health before I was out of my room. So certain was she of not having been observed on the previous day—or so prodigious was her power of controlling herself—that she actually advised me to go out riding before lunch, and try what the fresh air and the exercise would do relieve me! Feeling that I must end in speaking to Michael, it struck me that this would be the one safe way of speaking to him in private. I accepted her advice, and had another approving pat on the cheek from the plump white fingers. They no longer struck cold on my skin; the customary vital warmth had returned to them. Her ladyship's mind had recovered its tranquillity.

IX.

I left the house for my morning ride.

Michael was not in his customary spirits. With some difficulty, I induced him to tell me the reason. He had decided on giving notice to leave his situation in the General's employment. As soon as I could command myself, I asked what had happened to justify this incomprehensible proceeding on his part. He silently offered me a letter. It was written by the master whom he served before he came to us; and it announced that an employment as secretary was offered to him in the house of a gentleman who was "interested in his creditable efforts to improve his position in the world." What it cost me to preserve the outward appearance of composure as I handed back the letter, I am ashamed to tell. I spoke to him with some bitterness. "Your wishes are gratified," I said; "I don't wonder that you are eager to leave your place." He reined back his horse and repeated my words. "Eager to leave my place? I am heartbroken at leaving it." I was reckless enough to ask why. His head sank. "I daren't tell you," he said. I went on from one imprudence to another. "What are you afraid of?" I asked. He suddenly looked up at me. His eyes answered, "You."

Can you fathom the folly of a woman in love? Can you imagine the enormous importance which the veriest trifles assume in her poor little mind? I was perfectly satisfied—even perfectly happy, after that one look. I rode on briskly for a minute or two—then the forgotten scene at the stables recurred to my memory. I resumed a foot pace and beckoned him to speak to me.

"Lady Catherine's bookseller lives in the city, doesn't he?" I began.

"Yes, miss."

"Did you walk both ways?"

"Yes."

"You must have felt tired when you got back?"

"I hardly remember what I felt when I got back. I was met by a surprise."

"May I ask what it was?"

"Certainly, miss. Do you remember a black bag of mine?"

"Perfectly."

"When I returned from the city I found the bag open; and the things I kept in it—the shawl, the linen, and the letter——"

"Gone?"

"Gone."

My heart gave one great leap in me, and broke into vehement throbbings, which made it impossible for me to say a word more. I reined up my horse, and fixed my eyes on Michael. He was startled; he asked if I felt faint. I could only sign to him to go on.

"My own belief," he proceeded, "is that some person burnt the things in my absence, and opened the window to prevent any suspicion being excited by the smell. I am certain I shut the window before I left my room. When I closed it on my return, the fresh air had not entirely removed the smell of burning; and, what is more, I found a heap of ashes in the grate. As to the person who has done me this injury, and why it has been done, those are mysteries beyond my fathoming. I beg your pardon, miss, I am sure you are not well. Might I advise you to return to the house?"

I accepted his advice, and turned back.

In the tumult of horror and amazement that filled my mind, I could still feel a faint triumph stirring in me through it all, when I saw how alarmed and how anxious he was about me. Nothing more passed between us on the way back. Confronted by the dreadful discovery that I had made, I was silent and helpless. Of the guilty persons concerned in the concealment of the birth, and the desertion of the infant, my nobly born, highly bred, irreproachable aunt now stood revealed before me as one! An older woman than I was might have been hard put to preserve her presence of mind, in such a position as mine. Instinct, not reason, served me in my sore need. Instinct, not reason, kept me passively and stupidly silent when I got back to the house. "We will talk about it to-morrow," was all I could say to Michael, when he gently lifted me from my horse.

I excused myself from appearing at the luncheon table; and I drew down the blinds in my sitting room, so that my face might not betray me when Lady Catherine's maternal duty brought her up stairs to make inquiries. The same excuse served in both cases—my ride had failed to relieve me of my headache. My aunt's brief visit led to one result which is worth mentioning. The indescribable horror of her that I felt, forced the conviction on my mind that we two could live no longer under the same roof. While I was still trying to face this alternative with the needful composure, my uncle presented himself, in some anxiety about my continued illness. I should certainly have burst out crying, when the kind and dear old man kissed me and condoled with me, if he had not brought news with him which turned back all my thoughts on myself and my aunt. Michael had shown the General his letter, and had given notice to leave. Lady Catherine was present at the time. To her husband's amazement, she abruptly interfered with a personal request to Michael to think better of it, and to remain in his place!

"I should not have troubled you, my dear, on this unpleasant subject," said my uncle, "if Michael had not told me that you were aware of the circumstances under which he feels it his duty to leave us. After your aunt's interference (quite incomprehensible to *me*,) the man hardly knows what to do. Being your groom, he begs me to ask if there is any impropriety in his leaving the difficulty to your decision. I tell you of his request, Mina; but I strongly advise you to decline taking any responsibility on yourself."

I answered mechanically, accepting my uncle's suggestion, while my thoughts were wholly absorbed in this last of the many extraordinary proceedings on Lady Catherine's part since Michael had entered the house. There are limits—out of books and plays—to the innocence of a young unmarried woman. After what I had just heard, the doubts which had thus far perplexed me were suddenly and completely cleared up. I said to my secret self: "She has some human feeling left. Michael Bloomfield is her son."

From the moment when my mind emerged from the darkness, I recovered the use of such intelligence and courage as I naturally possessed. From this point, you will find that, right or wrong, I saw my way before me, and took it.

To say that I felt for the General with my whole heart, is merely to own that I could be commonly grateful. I sat on his knee, and laid my cheek against his cheek, and thanked him for his long, long years of kindness to me. He stopped me in his simple generous way. "Why, Mina, you talk as if you were going to leave us!" I started up, and went to the window, opening it and complaining of the heat, and so concealing from him that he had unconsciously anticipated the event that was indeed to come. When I returned to my chair, he helped me to recover myself by alluding once more to my aunt. He feared that her health was in some way impaired. In the time when they had first met, she was subject to nervous maladies, having their origin in a "calamity" which was never mentioned by either of them in later days. She might possibly be suffering again, from some other form of nervous derangement, and he seriously thought of persuading her to send for medical advice.

Under ordinary circumstances, this vague reference to a "calamity" would not have excited any special interest in me. But my mind was now in a state of morbid suspicion. I knew that my uncle and aunt had been married for twenty-four years; and I remembered Michael had described himself as being twenty-six years old. Bearing these circumstances in mind, it struck me that I might be acting wisely (in Michael's interest) if I persuaded the General to speak further of what had happened when he met the woman whom an evil destiny had bestowed on him for a evil. Nothing but the consideration of serving the man I loved would have reconciled me to making my own secret use of the recollections which my uncle might innocently confide to me. As it was, I thought the means would, in this case, be for once justified by the end. Before we part, I have little doubt that you will think so too.

I found it an easier task than I had anticipated to turn the talk back again to the days when the General had seen Lady Catherine for the first time. He was proud of the circumstances under which he had won his wife. Ah, how my heart ached for him as I saw his eyes sparkle and the color mount in his fine rugged face!

This is the substance of what I heard from him. I tell it briefly, because it is still painful to me to tell it at all.

My uncle had met Lady Catherine at her father's country house. She had then re-appeared in society, after a long period of seclusion, passed partly in England, partly on the Continent. Before the date of her retirement she had been engaged to marry a French nobleman, equally illustrious by his birth and by his diplomatic services in the East. Within a few weeks of his wedding day he was drowned by the wreck of his yacht. This was the calamity to which my uncle had referred.

Lady Catherine's mind was so seriously affected by the dreadful event, that the doctors refused to answer for the consequences, unless she was at once placed in the strictest retirement. Her mother, and a French maid devotedly attached to her, were the only persons whom it was considered safe for the young lady to see, until time and care had in some degree composed her. An after-residence in a quiet Swiss valley slowly completed the restoration of her health. Her return to her friends and admirers was naturally a subject of sincere rejoicing among the guests assembled in her father's house. My uncle's interest in Lady Catherine soon developed into love. They were equals in rank, and well suited to each other in age. The parents raised no obstacles; but they did not conceal from their guest that the disaster which had befallen their daughter was but too likely to disincline her to receive his addresses, or any man's addresses, favorably. To their surprise, they proved to be wrong. The young lady was touched by the simplicity and the delicacy with which her lover urged his suit. She had lived among worldly people. This was a man whose devotion she could believe to be sincere. They were married.

Had no unusual circumstances occurred? Had nothing happened which the General had forgotten? Nothing.

X.

It is surely needless that I should stop here to draw the plain inferences from the events just related. Any person who remembers that the shawl in which the infant was wrapped came from those Eastern regions which were associated with the French nobleman's diplomatic services—also, that the faults of composition in the letter found on the child were exactly the faults likely to have been committed by the French maid—any person who follows these traces can find his way to the truth as I found mine.

Returning for a moment to the hopes which I had formed of being of some service to Michael, I have only to say that they were at once destroyed when I heard of the death by drowning of the man to whom the evidence pointed as his father. The prospect looked equally barren when I thought of the miserable mother. That she should openly acknowledge her son in her position was perhaps not to be expected of any woman. Had she courage enough, or, in plainer words, heart enough to acknowledge him privately?

I called to mind again some of the apparent caprices and contradictions in Lady Catherine's conduct, on the memorable day when Michael had presented himself to fill the vacant place. Look back with me to the record of what she said and did on that occasion, by the light of your present knowledge, and you will see that his likeness to his father must have struck her when he entered the room, and that the statement of his age must have correctly described the age of her son. Recall the actions that followed—the withdrawal to the window to conceal her face; the clutch at the curtain when she felt herself sinking; the cry, not of terror at a cat, but of recognition of the father's nervous infirmity reappearing in the son; the harshness of manner under which she concealed her emotions when she ventured to speak to him; the reiterated inconsistencies and vacillations of conduct that followed, all alike due to the protest of Nature, desperately resisted to the last—and say if I did her injustice when I believed her to be incapable of running the smallest risk of discovery at the prompting of maternal love.

There remained then, only Michael to think of. I remembered how he had spoken of the unnatural parents whom he neither expected nor cared to discover. Still, I could not reconcile it to my conscience to accept a chance outbreak of temper as my sufficient justification for keeping him in ignorance of a discovery which so nearly concerned him. It seemed at least to be my duty to make myself acquainted with the true state of his feelings before I decided to bear the burden of silence with me to my grave.

What I felt it my duty to do in this serious matter I determined to do at once. Besides, let me honestly own that I felt lonely and desolate, oppressed by the critical situation in which I was placed, and eager for the relief that it would be to me only to hear the sound of Michael's voice. I sent my maid to say that I wished to speak to him immediately. The crisis was already hanging over my head. That one act brought it down.

XI.

He came in, and stood modestly waiting at the door.

After making him take a chair, I began by saying that I had received his message, and that, acting on my uncle's advice, I must abstain from interfering in the question of his leaving, or not leaving, his place. Having in this way established a reason for sending for him, I alluded next to the loss he had sustained, and asked if he had any prospect of finding out the person who had entered his room in his absence. On his reply in the negative, I spoke of the serious results to him of the act of destruction that had been committed. "Your last chance of discovering your parents," I said, "has been cruelly destroyed."

He smiled sadly. "You know already, miss, that I never expected to discover them."

I ventured a little nearer to the object I had in view.

"Do you never think of your mother?" I asked. "At your age, she might be still living. Can you give up all hope of finding her, without feeling your heart ache?"

"If I have done her wrong in believing that she deserted me," he answered, "the heartache is but a poor way of expressing the remorse that I should feel."

I ventured nearer still. "Even if you were right," I began—"even if she did desert you——"

He interrupted me sternly. "I would not cross the street to see her," he said. "A woman who deserts her child is a monster. Forgive me for speaking so, miss! When I see good mothers and their children, it maddens me when I think of what *my* childhood was."

Hearing these words, and watching him attentively as he spoke, I could see that my silence would be a mercy, not a crime. I hastened to speak of other things. "If you decide to leave us," I said, "when shall you go?"

His eyes softened instantly. Little by little the color faded out of his face as he answered me.

"The General kindly said, when I spoke of leaving my place—" His voice faltered, and he paused to steady it. "My master," he resumed, "said that I need not keep my new employer waiting by staying for the customary month, provided—provided you were willing to dispense with my services."

So far I had succeeded in controlling myself. At that reply I felt my resolution failing me. I saw how he suffered; I saw how manfully he struggled to conceal it. All my heart went out to him in spite of me.

"I am not willing," I said. "I am sorry—very, very sorry to lose you. But I will do anything that is for your good. I can say no more."

He rose suddenly, as if to leave the room; mastered himself; stood for a moment silently looking at me—then looked away again, and said his parting words.

"If I succeed, Miss Mina, in my new employment—if I get on perhaps to higher things—is it—is it presuming too much, to ask if I might, some day—perhaps when you are out riding alone—if I might speak to you—only to ask if you are well and happy——"

He could say no more. I saw the tears in his eyes; saw him shaken by the convulsive breathings which break from men in the rare moments when they cry. He forced it back even then. He bowed to me—oh, God, he bowed to me, as if he were only my servant! as if he were too far below me to take my hand, even at that moment! I could have endured anything else; I believe I could still have restrained myself under any other circumstances. It matters little now; my confession must be made, whatever you may think of me. I flew to him like a frenzied creature; I threw my arms round his neck; I said to him: "Oh, Michael, don't you know that I love you?" And then I laid my head on his breast and held him to me and said no more.

In that moment of silence the door of the room was opened. I started and looked up. Lady Catherine was standing on the threshold.

I saw in her face that she had been listening; she must have followed him when he was on his way to my room. That conviction steadied me. I took his hand in mine, and stood side by side with him, waiting for her to speak first. She looked at Michael, not at me. She advanced a step or two, and addressed him in these words: "It is just possible that you have some sense of decency left. Leave the room."

That deliberate insult was all I wanted to make me completely mistress of myself. I told Michael to wait a moment, and opened my writing desk. I wrote on an envelope the address in London of a faithful old servant who had attended my mother in her last moments. I gave it to Michael. "Call there to-morrow morning," I said. "You will find me waiting for you."

He looked at Lady Catherine, evidently unwilling to leave me alone with her. "Fear nothing," I said; "I am old enough to take care of myself. I have only a word to say to this woman before I leave the house." With that I took his arm, and walked with him to the door, and said good-bye almost as composedly as if we had been husband and wife already.

Lady Catherine's eyes followed me as I shut the door again, and crossed the room to a second door which led into my bed-chamber. She suddenly stepped up to me, just as I was entering the room, and laid her hand on my arm.

"What do I see in your face?" she asked, as much of herself as of me, with her eyes fixed in keen inquiry on mine.

"You shall know directly," I answered. "Let me get my bonnet and cloak first."

"Do you mean to leave the house?"

"I do."

She rang the bell. I quietly dressed myself to go out. The servant answered the bell as I returned to the sitting room.

"Tell your master I wish to see him instantly," said Lady Catherine.

"My master has gone out, my lady."

"To his club?"

"I believe so, my lady."

"I will send you with a letter to him. Come back when I ring again." She turned to me as the man withdrew. "Do you refuse to stay here until the General returns?"

"I shall be happy to see the General, if you will enclose my address in your letter to him."

Replying in those terms I wrote the address for the second time. Lady Catherine knew perfectly well when I gave it to her, that I was going to a respectable house, kept by a woman who had nursed me when I was a child.

"One last question," she said. "Am I to tell the General it is your intention to marry your groom?"

"You can put it more plainly, if you like," I said. "You can tell the General that it is my intention to marry your son."

She was near the door, on the point of leaving me. As I spoke, she turned with a ghastly stare of horror—felt about her with her hands as if she was groping in darkness—and dropped senseless on the floor.

I instantly summoned help. The women servants carried her to my bed. While they were restoring her to herself, I wrote a few lines telling the miserable woman how I had discovered her secret.

"Your husband's tranquillity," I added, "is as precious to me as my own. As for your son, you know what he thinks of the parents who deserted him. Your secret is safe in my keeping—safe from your husband, safe from your son, to the end of my life."

I sealed up those words and gave them to her with my own hand when she had come to herself again. I never heard from her in reply. I have never seen her from that time to this. She knows she can trust me.

And what did my good uncle say when we next met? I would rather report what he did when he had got the better of his first feelings of anger and surprise on hearing of my contemplated marriage. He kissed me on my wedding day, and he gave my husband the appointment which places us both in an independent position for life.

This is my shocking story, Madam. This is how I disgraced myself by marrying my groom.

General Miscellany.

THE PIGS OF FLORIDA.

A Florida correspondent of the Boston *Commercial Bulletin* writes: L. said the pigs of Florida were the curse of the country, they were allowed to run free, making it necessary for farmers to build tight fences, and to be ever on the watch lest their crops were destroyed, their paths unceremoniously rooted up, or their young chickens and domestic fowls destroyed by them.

Men told me that at Smyrna the pigs would steal anything and everything: would watch at doors of houses where they had seen something thrown out, sometimes for hours, hoping for another throw out; that the boatmen were afraid of them; that it a boat was left out in the stream, pigs had been known to swim out, get into the boat, snatch a bundle or lunch package, swim ashore, and make for the woods.

Plenty of dogs were kept to chase them, but their legs were not inferior, if any, to the average dog's legs, and they would never drop their plunder until they were absolutely forced to; a slight nip from a dog's teeth was of no account.

Child spoke to me in a brief, harsh way about the Florida hogs, and I asked him to describe them and their actions at length.

"Oh, I am not capable of it," he replied, and almost grew pale at the sudden remembrance of his bristly tormenters.

L., who was present, poured forth an eloquent tribute to the demoniac intellectuality of the hogs he had known in his vicinity. L.'s wife claimed that it was all she could do to keep her young chickens from being snatched from their little coops.

In going alone about the country I would occasionally approach a solitary hog, or perhaps an old sow with a litter of pigs. These swine never ran, they stood gruffly surveying me as an intruder, and looked as if they half meditated an attack; only at a resolute advance would they shy off and then but reluctantly, as if they thought themselves foolish to give up a chance for a meal. Hogs do not like to visit thick hammocks on account of bears and panthers, beasts of prey who like pork and know how to capture it. Hammocks yield more food for swine than other land, and the difficulty of picking up a living off from sandy knolls and barren wastes, doubtless accounts for the sharpening of the wits of Florida pigs in general.

From the Contemporary Review.

A FARM-HOUSE DIRGE.

BY AUSTIN DOBSON.

I.

"I thought you would come this morning, ma'am.
Yes, Editn at last has gone;
To-morrow's a week, aye, just as the sun right into her window shone;
Went with the night, the Vicar says, where endeth never the day;
But she's left a darkness behind here I wish she had taken away.
She is no longer with us, but we seem to be always with her,
In the lonely bed where we laid her last, and can't get her to speak or stir.

II.

"Yes, I'm at work; 'tis time I was. I should have begun before;
But this is the room where she lay so still, ere they carried her past the door.
I thought I never could let her go where it seems so lonely of nights;
But now I am scrubbing and dusting down, and setting the place to rights.
All I have kept are the flowers there, the last that stood by her bed.
I suppose I must throw them away. *She* looked much fairer when she was dead.

III.

"Thank you, for thinking of her so much. Kind thought is the truest friend.
I wish you had seen how pleased she was with the peaches you used to send.
She tired of *them* too ere the end, as she did with all we tried;
But she liked to look at them all the same, so we set them down by her side.
Their bloom and the flush upon her cheek were alike, I used to say;
Both were so smooth, and soft, and round, and both have faded away.

IV.

"I never could tell you how kind, too, were the ladies up at the hall;
Every noon, or fair or wet, one of them used to call.
Worry and work seems ours, but yours pleasant and easy days,
And when all goes smooth, the rich and poor have different lives and ways.
Sorrow and death bring men more close, 'tis joy that puts us apart;
'Tis a comfort to think, though we're severed so, we're all of us one at heart.

V.

"She never wished to be smart and rich, as so many
Nor cared to go in on market-days to stare at the gay and new.
She liked to remain at home and pluck the white clothes-line to dry, I could;
She said to her sisters before she died, 'Tis so easy to be good.'
She must have found it so, I think, and that was the reason why
God deemed it needless to leave her here, so took her up to the sky.

VI.

"The Vicar says that he knows she is there, and sure-ly she ought to be;
But though I repeat the words, 'tis hard to believe what one does not see.
They did not want me to go to the grave, but I could not have kept away,
And whatever I do I can only see a coffin and church-yard clay.
Yes, I know it's wrong to keep lingering there, and wicked and weak to fret;
And that's why I'm hard at work again, for it helps one to forget.

VII.

"The young ones don't seem to take to work as their mothers and fathers did.
We never were asked if we liked or no, but had to obey when bid.
There's Bessie won't swill the dairy now, nor Richard call home the cows,
And all of them cry, 'How *can* you, mother?' when I carry the wash to the sows.
Edith would drudge, for always Death the hearth of the helpfulest robs.
But she was so pretty I could not bear to set her on dirty jobs.

"I don't know how it'll be with them when sorrow and loss are theirs,
For it isn't likely that they'll escape their pack of worries and cares.
They say it's an age of progress this, and a sight of things improves,
But sickness, and age, and bereavement seem to work in the same old grooves.
Fine they may grow, in fact, but Death as lief takes the moth as the grub.
When their dear ones die, I suspect they'll wish they'd a floor of their own to scrub.

CAPTURE OF TWO MORE DEVIL-FISH.

Unfortunate Result of Fishermen's Ignorance.

On the 2d of December last William Budgell, a fisherman residing in a place called Three Arms, saw, after a heavy gale of wind, a huge shapeless mass on the beach. It proved to be "a big squid," as our fishermen call them, which had been cast up by the waves, and it was dead when discovered. Unfortunately, Budgell did not know the value of his discovery. Had he preserved it perfect and put it into strong brine and brought it to St. John's he could have sold it for a large sum—probably $300 or $400. I have instructions from an eminent English zoologist to secure for him a good specimen, at almost any cost, and to despatch it to London in alcohol. The poor fisherman had some hungry dogs at home, and here he thought he had secured them a good winter diet.

Accordingly he cut it up into several pieces, so as to enable him to transport it to his residence in Three Arms. My informant, a very intelligent person, who was on a visit in that quarter on business, arrived at Budgell's house soon after he had brought it home in a mutilated state, and carefully measured some portions with his own hand. He found that the body measured fifteen feet to the end of the tail, which is five feet longer than the New York specimen. The circumference of the body at its thickest part was twelve feet. He found only one of the short arms perfect, which was sixteen feet in length, being five feet longer than a similar arm of the New York specimen, and he describes it as "thicker than a man's thigh."

The devil-fish has ten arms, two of them, called tentacles, being usually about three or four times the length of the other eight arms, but quite slender in comparison. Now if one of the stouter arms was sixteen feet, the tentacles would be forty-eight feet, which quite exceeds the dimensions of any specimen previously found. The tentacles of the New York specimen were thirty feet in length, thin and tough as leather.

The second specimen, whose capture I have to narrate, was taken under more picturesque circumstances, and greatly exceeded the former in dimensions of body. On the 2d day of November last Stephen Sherring, a fisherman residing in Thimble Tickle, not far from the locality where the other devil-fish was cast ashore, was out in a boat with two other men; not far from the shore they discovered some bulky object, and, supposing it might be part of a wreck, they rowed toward it, and, to their horror, found themselves close to a huge fish, having large glassy eyes, and churning the water into foam by the motion of its immense arms and tail. It was aground and the tide was ebbing. From the funnel at the back of its head it was ejecting large volumes of water, this being its method of moving backward, the force of the stream, by the reaction of the surrounding medium, driving it in the required direction. At times the water from the siphon was black as ink.

Finding the monster partially disabled, the fishermen plucked up courage and ventured near enough to throw the grapnel of their boat, the sharp flukes of which, having barbed points, sunk into the soft body. To the grapnel they had attached a stout rope which they had carried ashore and tied to a tree, so as to prevent the fish from going out with the tide. It was a happy thought, for the devil-fish found himself effectually moored to the shore. His struggles were terrific as he flung his ten arms about in dying agony. The fishermen took care to keep a respectful distance from the long tentacles which ever and anon darted out like great tongues from the central mass. At length it became exhausted and as the water receded it expired.

The fishermen, alas! knowing no better, proceeded to convert it into dog's meat. It was a splendid specimen—the largest yet taken—the body measuring twenty feet from the beak to the extremity of the tail. It was thus exactly double the size of the New York specimen, and five feet longer than the one taken by Budgell. The circumference of the body is not stated, but one of the arms measured thirty-five feet. This must have been a tentacle.—*Newfoundland Letter to Boston Traveller.*

A WONDERFUL PIECE OF OPTICIAN'S WORK.

The New York Academy of Sciences held an uncommonly full and lively meeting recently. The main feature was a paper by Dr. Ephraim Cutter of Boston, upon "Tolles' One-seventy-fifth-inch Objective, its History, Construction and Use." Robert Tolles, Dr. Cutter said, was born at West Winsted, Ct., and served his apprenticeship under the microscope-maker Spencer, father of the present noted optician of that name. In 1867, Mr. Tolles went to Boston and organized the Boston Optical Works. Since then he has become famous as a maker of microscopic apparatus. Dr. Cutter gave a list of more than a score of definite inventions for the improvement of microscopes, Mr. Tolles had made. He made for Dr. Harriman, of Roston, a student of dental histology, a 1-50th inch objective-glass at a cost of $250. Not content with this, but wishing to reaffirm his supposed discovery of nerve-fibres in the soft solids of the teeth, Dr. Harriman instructed Tolles to produce a 1-75th inch objective, which Tolles promised to try to do, and succeeded in July, 1873, at an expense of $400. The high cost and long time required to produce this is due to the minuteness of the thing, which must be composed of many pieces fitted together with extreme accuracy. The actual opening through which light can enter is only 1-64th of an inch and the obverse 3-10ths, while the "cover adjustment" requires glass less than 1-250th of an inch thick. It is an immersion lens of three systems, but can also be used dry. The illumination is simple,